

# THE JOHNS HOPKINS NEWS-LETTER



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## The New Face of Hopkins



BRITNI CROCKER/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

### Penn Provost Ronald Daniels to become 14th President of the Johns Hopkins University

By KATLYN TORGERSON and  
ALEXANDER TRAUM  
Editors-in-Chief

After a seven-month search and over 300 candidates, the Board of Trustees elected University of Pennsylvania Provost Ronald Daniels as the 14th president of Johns Hopkins.

Daniels, who studied law at the University of Toronto and Yale University, will take over current President William Brody's position in March. For over nine years before his appointment at Penn in 2005, Daniels was the Dean of the University of Toronto's law school.

"Given the constellation of roles that research universities play and especially the role that this great university has and will continue to play, I want to register ... publicly, proudly, and without any equivocation my firm determination to devote every ounce of my passion and my energy to the bright and promising future that stretches before Johns Hopkins University," Daniels said at a press conference Tuesday.

Daniels repeatedly emphasized his respect for current president Brody's work, as well as his hope to live up to his high standard.

"For those of us outside Johns Hopkins, Bill Brody simply represents the gold standard for

achievement in higher education. He is truly an inspired academic leader," Daniels said. "Under his tenure, as we have all seen, Johns Hopkins has flourished."

In March, Brody will move to La Jolla, Calif. and begin his new position as President of the Salk Institute.

The Presidential Search Committee was composed of students, faculty, administrators and Board of Trustees members. In total, they considered hundreds of potential candidates before narrowing the field to a small number of top choices, whom they interviewed in New York so the process would remain discreet.

"As a team, we had one goal: to find the best person for the job," Chair of the Board of Trustees and member of the Presidential Search Committee Pamela Flaherty said. "And we found him."

Although choosing a legal scholar may seem odd for a university that has no law school, Flaherty stressed that his specific field of study is not critical for the job of president. Rather, she cited his strengths as a "gifted leader, administrator and scholar," who "sets very high standards of excellence." She also noted that in his time at Penn, he gained experience overseeing

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BRITNI CROCKER/PHOTO EDITOR  
Ferrell, SNL alum and star of *Anchorman*, addressed a packed Shriver Hall last Thursday.

## MSE series drops comedic anchor with Will Ferrell

By LEAH MAINIERO  
News & Features Editor

Expectations ran high last Thursday as students packed Shriver Hall to full capacity to hear a speech from celebrity, actor and comedian Will Ferrell.

Ferrell kept the audience, as well as the hosting Milton S. Eisenhower Symposium (MSE) staff, guessing until the very end as to the subject his speech would cover and whether it

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## Things I've Learned with Prof. Goodfellow

Anthropology professor speaks on his research, night in jail last week

By POOJA SHAH  
Staff Writer

On election night, Professor Aaron Goodfellow experienced a new side of the city when he was arrested by the Baltimore City Police Department for "inciting a riot" during the post-election celebrations in Charles Village.

Through his fieldwork as a professor and administrator in the Department of Anthropology and the Program for the Study of Women, Gender and Sexuality, Aaron Goodfellow has reached far beyond the Homewood campus to study topics like infectious diseases and ecological risks in Baltimore.

The *News-Letter* caught up with Professor Goodfellow on Tuesday to chat about his present and future areas of anthropological research, as well as his sentiments regarding his arrest.

*News-Letter (N-L):* Did you always know you wanted to do anthropology research?

*Aaron Goodfellow (AG):* No, definitely not. I came to anthropology relatively late in my career. I had a whole previous life as a carpenter. I spent five years building houses in Seattle before going to graduate school.

*N-L:* Then what finally drew you to anthropology?

*AG:* I'm not really sure. It wasn't necessarily the field that drew me in, it was more my interests that found a home in anthropology. I knew that I wanted to spend some time thinking

in depth about issues.

When I left my undergraduate career at the University of Vermont, I knew that I had some sort of unfinished business and I knew there was more work that I wanted to pursue in certain conceptual veins, although it wasn't clear to me where. It wasn't clear if I wanted to do it in anthropology, history or even philosophy. And after being out of school for five years, I just happened to apply to anthropology departments because it seemed like that was the field that



DANIEL LITWIN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Goodfellow focuses on health and environment in Baltimore.

would allow me the broadest possibilities for exploring the ideas and

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## Slots referendum passes, Univ. administrator lends support

By KATIE COLLINS  
Staff Writer

Maryland residents passed a hotly contested referendum proposing slot machines funding education as a solution to the state's budgetary crisis, hours after which Baltimore City approved a \$4.1-million purchase of land south of the city's downtown that will be used to build a casino.

Question 2, which passed 59 percent for and 41 percent against in both Baltimore City and overall in Maryland, was cause for fierce debate between groups organized around the issue. In recent weeks the controversy reached the Hopkins campus.

The success of "Question 2" will result in the amendment of the Maryland State Constitution, adding

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## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

# St. Paul lot to remain empty indefinitely, grounds being cleaned

By **ANDREW HALLS**  
For the News-Letter

Due to a lack in funding, the empty lot on St. Paul Street between 32nd and 33rd streets, the future site of The Olmsted, a mixed-use residential and retail building, will remain undeveloped indefinitely.

On Wednesday a contracted landscaping company cleaned the site and prepared it for seeding to make it more presentable, according to Tim Pula, senior development director for Struever Bros. Eccles & Rouse (SBER), the owners and developers of the property.

"There has not been a date set, and there hasn't been for some time," Pula said. "[Construction will begin] As soon as we are able to raise the necessary financing. It's a very difficult time for raising money."

After the block was razed in the summer of 2006 construction was supposed to start by the end of 2006. The start date was pushed off one year to the end of 2007 and once more to the end of 2008. The size of the plan has also changed.

The plan for the 1.12-acre property originally proposed 107 condominiums, 15,000 feet

of retail space and over 500 parking spaces. The updated plan intends to bring approximately 200 apartments, 75,000 square feet of office space, 31,000 square feet of ground floor retail space and 335 parking spaces.

"The loss of new parking bothers me most. The fact that the developer was able to tear down a whole city block and not be held accountable also upsets me," Carma Halterman, co-owner Carma's Café, said. "To be a real destination place, people from outside the community [Charles Village] need to be able to come into the community and get out of their cars and shop for a few hours. The current parking situation is a deterrent. What parking we do have has a two-hour limit and you cannot shop and eat in two hours."

Pula and officials from the City government don't blame SBER for the delayed project. Given the state of the economy construction projects across the city and country have been frozen.

"You can't get financing for a project like that. It's just not possible to start. This isn't the only one; there are plenty of projects that have just halted. It's not particular to this developer or this location," Cindy Leahy, council

assistant to Mary Pat Clarke and the councilwoman for Charles Village, said.

"It's really difficult to give any kind of date because it's not something that we control," Pula said. Others in the neighborhood are simply unconcerned with the fate of the empty lot.

"I don't pay much attention to it, it might help a little, but I don't really care what happens," Dexter Davis, assistant manager of Cold Stone Creamery on St. Paul Street, said.

Responding to complaints from the community, SBER contracted Maxalea Landscaping to clean up. Both Clarke's office and Hopkins appreciate the developer's efforts to make the space more presentable.

"They're there to clean up the lot. We're quite pleased with that," Leahy said. "That's terrific, we know that Struever is acting to dress up the site a little bit in response to the concerns of the community and we think that's really appropriate and responsible of them to do that."

According to Pula the laying of topsoil and seeding are being done to make the lot more presentable. However, according to Jake Reitz, assistant foreman for Maxalea Landscaping,

who was on the site on Wednesday, the landscaping firm was only working on settlement control, which holds the soil to the ground. In accordance with city codes, you can't have bare soil because it will end up on the street after it rains, according to Reitz. He was adamant that there were not in fact plans to beautify the site and the work being done was only to keep the site in line with city codes.

While landscapers work to maintain the space, there is little that SBER can do to expedite the financing process that is necessary before any construction can take place.

"All we can do is go out and talk to numerous different lenders and investors. We're really looking for larger investors interested in rental. Not every investor does rental. Some specialize in mixed use," Pula said.

Hopkins does not have any ownership in the property, ac-



JOHN PRINDERGASS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

The now-vacant Olmsted lot is being landscaped, but plans for the space have yet to be made.

ording to O'Shea. Therefore, as a concerned neighbour, it has no power to expedite the process either.

"I think people are used to seeing property that is in a transition state between one development and another. Understandably, the community very much wants development to occur," O'Shea said.

"I always see it [the empty lot]

when I walk to Chipotle or the bank. It's just off-putting and unsightly," freshman Emily Trogolo said.

The Olmsted is one of three buildings that are part of SBER's "Village Commons" project. SBER was also responsible for the construction of Charles Commons, Village Lofts condominiums and retail space on St. Paul Street.

## Obama's financial position includes tax credits that may alleviate student debt

By **CONOR FOLEY**  
Staff Writer

The rising cost of college education has become an increasingly important issue in recent years. During the course of this year's presidential campaign, both John McCain and Barack Obama discussed education policy. Both sought to reign in the cost to families of higher education.

President-elect Obama has put forth a number of education policies as goals for his administration. The largest and most contentious part of his program is the introduction of an American Opportunity Tax Credit, which would provide a full refundable tax credit of \$4,000 and require students receiving the tax credit to engage in 100 hours of community service each year.

The Obama campaign estimated that this tax credit would cover two-thirds of tuition costs at the average public university. The campaign also claims that by making the tax credit fully refundable, it is helping low-income families. A fully refundable tax credit is one in which, even if a taxpayer is liable for less than the value of the tax credit, the government will still pay them the difference.

Some financial aid experts, however, argue that this will primarily benefit middle-income families. This is due to the timing of the reimbursements. A tax credit benefits families some time after they have to pay for tuition,

meaning that it favors those who can afford to wait.

There is also some concern that, given the current economic climate, the government couldn't afford to institute a tax credit like this. It is estimated that this program would cost \$10 billion.

Evan Lazerowitz, president of the Hopkins College Republicans, argued that this linkage of a tax credit and community service is problematic.

"We're not opposed to a tax credit ... [but] linking it to community service creates a number of externalities," he said. "Community service, rather than being a voluntary activity, becomes a chore for students. Students who would be working for pocket money are now spending time in this program."

Brendan Ullman, chapter coordinator for Johns Hopkins Students for Barack Obama, disagreed.

"I think linking tax credits with community service is a great idea," he said. "There will be plenty of people who will only do the minimum number of hours to receive the \$4,000 credit but there will also be students who decide to stay with the organizations they've worked with."

Sophomore Spencer MacGriff said he believes that Obama's financial priorities may be out of order.

"I feel [Obama's] programs are all very nice, but we have a lot more pressing issues, given our current economic crisis," MacG-

riff said.

Several students disagree, citing the benefits of Obama's program.

"I feel [tax credits] would be beneficial to a lot of students. I mean, who doesn't want to get money? College is expensive for everyone," sophomore Diego Rodriguez said.

Obama also seeks to increase the amount of aid made available specifically to low income students under the Pell Grant program.

The maximum Pell Grant available through the new Higher Education Opportunity Act signed by President Bush in August makes approximately \$5,100 available per student per year. The amount of aid is expected to increase to \$5,400 over the next few years.

Currently, Hopkins students receive \$10.3 million in aid from the federal government, according to the Financial Aid office. Obama and McCain both proposed simplifying the tax program and college financial aid programs.

The complexity of the system is often cited by critics as a reason students do not even consider applying to college. Furthermore, it has been noted that the burden of a complex system falls most heavily on low-income, non-English speaking households.

"A lot of families can be intimidated. Particularly if a student is the first person in their family to attend college, the process can be daunting and discouraging," Assistant Professor of Sociology Stephen Plank said.

Hopkins has consistently pushed for efforts to increase the availability of higher education. However, during the course of their campaigns the University did not endorse either candidate's plans for higher education.

The University has not yet expressed an official position addressing Obama's intended policies.

"The University generally gets involved with policy once it is at the legislative stage ... campaign proposals are often so general that it's very difficult to say what the actual policy would look like or how it would effect us," Vice President for Government, Community and Public Affairs Linda Robertson said.

## Philosophy, Science find dualism in Veritas Forum

By **CUONG NGUYEN and MING WEN**  
Staff Writers

John Rittenhouse, Adjunct Professor of Christian Apologetics at Bila University in Los Angeles, spoke yesterday on the true nature of human beings at a Veritas forum lecture, a series sponsored by various campus ministries.

Rittenhouse focused his discussion of the broad questions of what it means to be human. Prominent questions featured included: Are human beings simply material objects; is there an immaterial part of being human; is science the best or only discipline by which to gain truth?

"I don't claim to be an incredible expert on the subject, but I have read and studied with experts," Rittenhouse said.

Rittenhouse launched into his investigation by saying that science and its related disciplines are not the only sources of knowledge in the world, dealing instead with cause and effects actions in the material universe.

Rittenhouse went on to question our senses and their role in understanding reality.

"How do you know that [the digital read-out] in the lab is real? How do you know your eyes are accurately seeing that? All of those things I've just mentioned are all philosophical paradigms," Rittenhouse said.

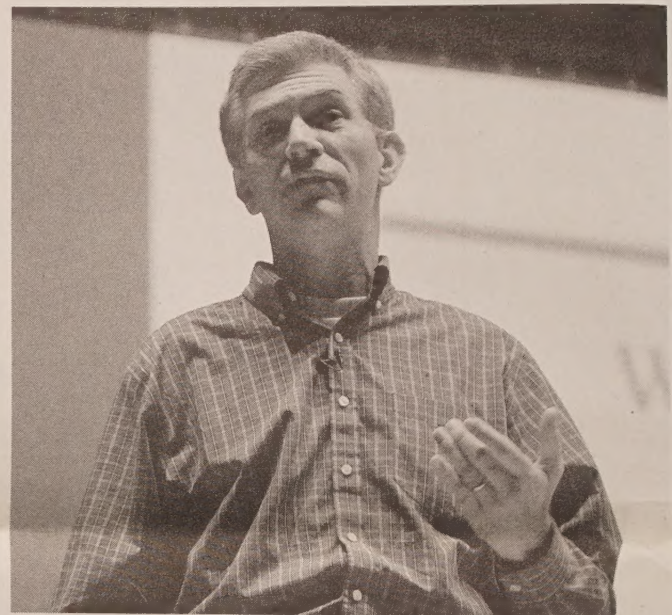
After laying this groundwork of skepticism, Rittenhouse described the two major views of human beings, physicalism and dualism. Physicalism was described as viewing the body as a physical substance, while dualism sees the body as both material and non-material substance, what is commonly called a soul.

Rittenhouse defended his adherence to the view of dualism, citing examples of non-physical objects such as reasons, propositions, thoughts, laws of logic, numbers and information.

"The idea that science captures everything, except the center of everyone's universe, his own consciousness, makes a laughingstock of its claims to present a plausible world view," Rittenhouse said.

After Rittenhouse's presentation Professor Thomas Coarson, physician and faculty member at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, led a portion of the Veritas Forum where undergraduates, graduates and members of the Charles Village community asked questions to Rittenhouse about his views on various philosophical, theological and scientific topics.

A question often raised by Hopkins students was science's



BRITNI CROCKER/PHOTOGRAPHER EDITOR

Christian Apologetics lecturer John Rittenhouse spoke at Veritas Forum on Wednesday.

role in Christianity. Many undergraduates in attendance were science majors and premeds who wondered how their faith coexists with the studies of chemistry, physics, biology and so forth. A student asked if science plays any role in understanding the interlinking connection between a person's thoughts and soul.

"Substantive dualism can register brain activity through MRI scans and other things. So yes, I do think there's a connection between the brain activity we see and our thoughts and our soul. Science can actually tell us a great deal about this connection," Rittenhouse said.

Members

of the community asked for Rittenhouse's opinion on controversial subjects such as pulling life support on a brain-dead person and the moral ramifications of such an action in conjunction with the philosophy of substantive dualism. Rittenhouse had a difficult time deciding on a right course of action.

"The question is if the soul is still in the body when the person is brain-dead, such as people in vegetative states. It's not right to withhold basic needs such as food, water and oxygen. It's not right to starve or dehydrate someone to death. Is it, morally obligatory to do everything you can to provide those basic needs, even if that person is in a vegetative state (brain-dead)? If a person is not hooked up in a machine and needs that support, it's a difficult question, and I particularly don't know how to answer it and I hope I never have to face such a situation," Rittenhouse said.

Though the Veritas forum attempted to provide a place for both theists and skeptics to explore and discuss life's hardest questions together, some stu-

dents thought the forum was very biased and one-sided. It was originally planned that a Hopkins professor would come speak at the Veritas forum in support of physicalism in contrast to substantive dualism but the professor dropped out due to schedule conflicts.

"I was disappointed and I thought it was going to be a scholarly debate kind of thing but it just ended up being a lecture," sophomore Will Choi, a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, said.

Many students complained about the illogical reasoning of Rittenhouse's argument. "I was really disappointed by his defense of substance dualism because there was a definite religion bias in his presentation. It was especially shown when the end of the presentation was called 'New Testament data' after admitting that the Bible is a literary work. It seems ridiculous and demeaning to call stories from the New Testament 'evidence' for his campaign that there is more to truth than science. If you want to appeal to sources of truth besides science, please at least appeal to reason and not fictional testimony," sophomore Shane Steinert-Threlkeld said.

Nonetheless, students and community residents appreciate the increase of open dialogue on the Homewood campus. "I consider myself a religious person, and I find I come to the same conclusions as Mr. Rittenhouse regarding non-material human existence. I was impressed with the beginning of his lecture where he asserted that a scientific look into human existence alone is inadequate," sophomore David Rezzo, treasurer of the Catholic Community at Hopkins, said.



FILE PHOTO

Obama's financial plan may decrease student debt and put an increased emphasis on Pell Grants.



## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

# Professors talk about sex at One Night Stand

Doctors Gregory Ball, Linda Gorman and Christopher Kraft captivated students with lectures on sex and romance

By CARA SELICK  
Your News-Letter Editor

Like most young adults, Hopkins students get riled up at the mention of sex and free food. Therefore, it should be no surprise that Monday night undergraduates spilled into Remsen Hall for the One Night Stand event, hosted by Psi Chi, the psychology honors society.

Despite the travesty of the free pizza running out within minutes, students stuck around to hear three professors speak about their expertise in sex and sexuality.

First up was Dr. Gregory Ball, who studies animal behavior. Consequently, his talk revolved around comparing sex between humans with sex between animals, mainly birds.

From Ball's lecture, the audience learned that male birds will do anything to attract a mate — even walk across electrified grids. Females are impressed when males exhibit excessive behavior, as demonstrated in a video clip of a bird imitating sounds incessantly.

Ball also showed the audience a video of a quail's sex organs. He ended his talk by stating that, although quails may not have the same apparatus as humans, they can still "fall in love."

After a single session of coitus, the male will stare into the compartment where the female is kept for hours, without eating, waiting for her to come back.

After Ball's talk, Psi Chi introduced the fraternity brothers who had been chosen as the "most attractive" members of their respective fraternities.

Representing BETA was Ian McCue ('10), representing PIKE was Nick Gilson ('11), representing Sigma Chi was Jonathan Smalletz ('09), representing Phi Psi was Jonathan Charny ('11), representing AEPi was Justin Silverman ('11) and representing Sig Ep was Adam Reiffen ('11). After introductions, all the women in the audience got to jot down their vote for "most attractive." Votes were handed in, and the lectures proceeded once more.

Next up was sexologist Dr. Christopher Kraft. Kraft's lecture centered on the sexual problems that most commonly occur, including men who claim to suffer from rapid ejaculation, otherwise known as premature ejaculation. Audience members seemed surprised to learn that the average male only lasts two minutes before ejaculation during intercourse, and therefore rapid ejaculation is actually less of a problem than it may appear to be.

As for women, Kraft informed the audience that there is much debate about the actual existence of a G-spot and that common belief is that only some women may have one, and therefore it isn't something to concentrate on. He then showed a historical video concerning masturbation. From this clip, we learned that Kellogg (of Kellogg's cereal) condemned masturbation and suggested that sex, even within marriage, should only be performed once a month, at most.

The audience also learned that the vibrator was first used in America as a tool in the doctor's office. Doctors would allow women to masturbate in order to free them of unladylike sexual fantasies. Kraft ended his discussion by discussing some more humorous problems he has encountered in his therapy session, such as a man who was aroused by cars.

Following Kraft's lecture, about 30 women were chosen from the audience to step outside and sniff the shirts of the fraternity brothers before voting on the best-smelling participant.

While the women sniffed and Psi Chi tallied, Dr. Linda Gorman spoke about the neuroscience of love. She began by stating that love is not an emotion, but rather a drive or motivation. She defined love as "one of three primary



ANGELI BUENO/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
Dr. Linda Gorman wrapped up Monday night's One Night Stand events with a lecture on the neuroscience of love and sex.

mating drives which has evolved to direct aspects of reproductive behaviors." She then discussed how the brain is affected when one is "in love."

Thanks to new advances in science and technology (including functional MRIs and PET scans) scientists can now view people's brains when they are under the influence of love. The first finding is that, when in love, there are actual changes in brain chemistry.

There is an increase in dopamine, as well as a decrease in serotonin. This is much like an obsessive compulsive person's brain, and according to Gorman, we do feel the same distractedness. Once these neurological changes have occurred once, we are then predisposed to fall in love again.

Gorman also spoke of pheromones and whether or not they really exist. According to her, if a female is fertile and not on oral contraceptives, she can respond to pheromones.

She therefore predicted that Psi Chi's experiment may not work, due to the fact that many college-aged females take oral contraceptives.

She added that women tend to respond more to men who have same pheromone signature as their fathers, a fact that received many vocalizations from the audience.

Gorman ended with the assertion that people in love reach the same "happy place" in their brains as is activated by food and sex and that love feels the same to brain as chocolate.

After all three professors were

done speaking, the results of the experiment were revealed. The hypothesis was that the student who was named the most attractive fraternity brother would also be chosen as having the best smelling odor.

Through both physical appearances and a pheromone-shirt-smell test, Jonathan Charny, representing Phi Psi, was named most all-around attractive fraternity brother.

According to the President of Psi Chi, junior Samantha Pou, the event was considered a huge success.

"[One Night Stand] turned one of the undergraduate community's favorite topics into an interactive event with some amazing professors . . . and no exams, no performance anxiety, right? We all win," she said.



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Rabbi Marwick addressed the dedication ceremony for the new *eruv* on Nov. 5.

## New *eruv* energizes Hopkins Orthodox Jewish community

By ALEXANDER TRAUM  
Editor-in-Chief

As the sun went down last Friday night, Orthodox Jewish students on campus observed Shabbat, the Jewish Sabbath, with a renewed sense of community. This was due to the recently completed construction of an *eruv* — a nearly invisible wire that surrounds an area and allows Orthodox Jews to carry objects on Shabbat.

The development of an *eruv* took over a year and was planned by Rabbi Binyamin Marwick, who works at the Hopkins Hillel.

The religious wire surrounds the Charles Village neighborhood, as well as Guilford, Remington, Keswick and parts of Hampden.

"The existence of an *eruv* symbolizes a fully established and mature Jewish community," Marwick said. Orthodox Jews believe that on Shabbat, which extends from sundown on Friday to Saturday night, they are prohibited from carrying any objects including books, strollers and keys beyond the confines of an enclosed space.

The *eruv* extends the boundaries of the enclosed space and consequently removes this restriction.

The *eruv* is formed out of built structures already in place such as fences, blocks and row houses as well as small attachments to the ends of utility poles, which create figurative doorways, that according to Jewish law, extend the boundaries of the home.

"The goal is to serve the population that wants it and be as imperceptible as possible, so people won't notice it," Marwick said.

On Nov. 5, Mayor Sheila Dixon held a ceremony during which the City agreed to lease the five-mile perimeter to the Jewish community for a symbolic \$1 for the next 20 years. The City's approval was not only a practical matter, but also a necessary one. Jewish law requires that the governing body rent the space to the Jewish community in order for an *eruv* to be acceptable.

This is the second *eruv* established in Baltimore. The first was constructed in Park Heights in 1978 and was approved by Mayor William Donald Schaefer. According to Marwick, the City's cooperation was made possible because of the creation of the *eruv* built 30 years ago.

"The politicians and civil servants were curious and interested in learning what [an *eruv*] is and working with you to make it possible," sophomore Michael Pisem, one of two students who attended the ceremony, said.

The *Eruv*, which ended up costing slightly more than the anticipated \$15,000, was funded by an anonymous donor with

connections to Hopkins whose donation was then matched by the Orthodox Union.

The *eruv* will be inspected every week to make sure that it is intact. According to Marwick, weather storms or vandalism can potentially cause a breach.

The Hopkins Hillel Web site will be updated every Friday afternoon to inform people if the *eruv* is up and functional.

"I did it primarily for the University community. I especially hope graduate students will stay in the community. There is a trend that they live in Pikesville [a town with a large Orthodox Jewish community] and commute," Marwick said.

His primary motivation for creating the *eruv* was the student community. While primarily for students, he hopes that the *eruv* will serve the greater community as well.

"The *eruv* gives a feeling of home to a lot of people . . . people come from towns that have an established community and it mirrors the experience of home; it gives them a sense of comfort," junior Sam Iser, who organizes the daily Orthodox minyan (a prayer group that meets three times a day), said.

"Obviously it is an exciting development for the Sabbath observant community at Hopkins," sophomore Josh Greenspan said.

"It is a sign of a thriving Jewish community."

For students who observe Shabbat, the *eruv* is not only a symbol, it also provides much welcome convenience.

"The *eruv* enables people to carry school books to Hillel

on Shabbat and going to lacrosse games is no longer so difficult," sophomore Rivky Stern said.

According to many Orthodox Jews at Hopkins, including Marwick, the *eruv* will prove attractive to prospective students who desire a traditionally observant community.

"With an *eruv*, you can assume that there is a solid community," Stern said. Iser believes that the *eruv* will result in the growth of the Orthodox community at Hopkins.

"The presence of Rabbi Marwick and the *eruv* signals to prospective students that there is a strong active community," Stern said.

However, according to Iser, the *eruv*'s impact on the size of the community will not take effect immediately.

"It takes a while for names to get out there — at least two to four years down the road."

For Marwick, the creation of the *eruv* is not just positive development for the Orthodox community exclusively, it is an important moment for the entire community.

"Everyone should feel proud. It is a symbol of religious freedom in America," Marwick said.

The *eruv* gives a feeling of home to a lot of people ... [who] come from towns with established [Jewish] communities.

— SAM ISER,  
JUNIOR

### CORRECTIONS

In the Nov. 6 issue, the photograph on A1 attributed to Angeli Bueno was actually taken by Daniel Litwin.

In the Corrections box in the Oct. 30 issue, Muksit Jamil's name was misspelled.

The *News-Letter* regrets these errors.

## Get It Done This Winter!

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## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

# Comedian Will Ferrell addresses politics, young voter participation

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would relate to MSE's theme of "Partnership, Progress and Prosperity in a Changing America."

"We have no idea what [Ferrell] is going to speak about," MSE staffer Jesse McDermeit said before Ferrell's speech. "We like to keep it open. He chooses what he wants to speak about. It might relate [to our theme], it might not."

"I have no idea what to expect," senior Chris Viemeister agreed. "I came here because I am a fan of Will Ferrell. I love his movies and his characters."

Most of all, Viemeister and others agreed, "I hope he's funny."

Upon Ferrell's entrance on stage, the crowd, composed mostly of students, burst into applause and gave Ferrell a standing ovation.

"I know what you're thinking," Ferrell joked as the applause died down. "God, he's so good-looking."

After thanking the University and MSE for inviting him to speak, Ferrell launched into his speech, punctuated frequently by peals of audience laughter.

"When I was asked to speak at this symposium," he said, "a number of questions ran through my mind. The first being, 'what is a symposium?'"

Ferrell explained that in ancient Greece, a "symposium" was a drinking party "filled with music and philosophical conversation." "Now I get it," Ferrell said, promptly cracking open a Budweiser beer and taking several sips from the can amidst audience cheers, whistles and chants to "chug, chug, chug."

"Tucker Carlson must have gotten hammered," he joked after setting his beer down on the

podium, a reference to the political commentator's MSE-hosted speech earlier this year.

After speaking briefly about growing up in California, in which he claimed his name from birth was Johns William Ferrell, his childhood hobbies were to make exclusive pieces of jewelry from baby teeth and fashion hand-sewn yarmulkes for cats, and he was let go from *Saturday Night Live* for repeatedly bringing concealed weapons into the studio, Ferrell launched into his main topic of the night.

"I know it's cliché but we all witnessed history together a couple of nights ago," he said in reference to Barack Obama's (D-IL) victory in the 2008 elections on Tuesday.

"I mean, there is no bigger symbol of change to the world than electing the first African-American president to the United States."

Ferrell recounted an emotional moment he spent with his two young sons watching Obama's acceptance speech.

"I said guys, please, look at that man. He's your next president," Ferrell paused as the audience waited for the punchline, "President-Elect: Alan Keyes."

As Ferrell began to elaborate on the great qualities of Keyes, a MSE staffer ran onstage and whispered to Ferrell that Obama, not Keyes, was in fact president-elect.

"You've got to be kidding me," Ferrell yelled in response as the audience roared.

"That guy? Barack Hussein Obama? What part of terrorist do you people not understand?"

"That being said," he added, "as an American I'd like to express my support for our next

president."

Ferrell did not limit his sarcasm to Obama's victory, but rather began a commentary on President George W. Bush's political policies.

"For the last eight years, we have been in the firm hands of a president who made decisions decisively," he said. "We never changed course."

Ferrell also indirectly criticized controversial wiretapping instances conducted by the National Security Agency (NSA) under Bush's presidency.

"The past eight years I felt secure. I knew we were constantly being watched. Every time I would go to bed, I would pick up the phone and say, 'Good night, U.S. government,'" he said.

He also quipped, "I would color-code my wardrobe to match the terror warning."

Ferrell, who impersonated Bush on NBC's *Saturday Night Live* for years, launched into a series of impressions, claiming that his quotes were taken from actual speeches and statements made by the president.

"The problem with the French," he said, "is that they don't have a word for entrepreneur," drawing an extended round of applause from the audience.

"Now," he concluded, "We have to listen to Obama? With his attention to detail? And his proper use of the English language?"

Ferrell concluded his 35-minute speech by referring to his original topic, emphasizing that America was entering a new chapter in history, led in part by the Hopkins students sitting before him in the auditorium.

"You guys are the future of this University, this country," he

said. "Whether it be in medicine, industry or education, it will be put on you guys to stand up and be heard. And I have faith in all of you because you're all smart, and you all care," although one audience member sporting a grey T-shirt was accused of not caring.

Ferrell also spoke on a non-partisan issue: making voting easier.

He suggested facilitating voting registration by registering voters when they receive their social security numbers.

More people would head to the polls on Election Day, he said, if Tuesday (Nov. 4) were a national holiday.

He also suggested holding elections over a weekend when more voters would be able to vote without missing work or other obligations.

On another thing," he said. "Go to the movies. Just go. Go often. Especially [to] mine. There's nothing more American than movie-watching."

Students, overwhelmingly male, lined up to ask Ferrell questions about his experiences as a college student, *SNL* cast member, improviser and actor.

The laughs continued as Ferrell fielded the questions ranging from "How did you get to be so awesome?" to an invitation to drinks at PJ's Pub after the speech.

Junior Luke Sand presented

Ferrell with a homemade CD, which Ferrell accepted, asking, "There is no anthrax in this, is there?"

Ferrell even did an impression of one deep-voiced questioner, freshman Peter Houlihan, telling him in an even deeper tone, "I celebrate your rich, baritone voice."

One student asked if Ferrell was for or against the tasing of college students, a reference to the recent show of force by the Baltimore City Police at an impromptu election night rally in Charles Village.

"Well, getting the collective vibe [in this room]," Ferrell quipped, "I'm sure the police were justified."

At one point in the question-and-answer session, a student asked Ferrell his favorite *SNL* character to impersonate.

Ferrell took shouted requests for impressions from the audience and concluded the session by singing Kansas's hit "Dust in the Wind" at a student's request, a recreation of his performance in the movie *Old School*.

Two students attempting to ask Ferrell serious questions about politics were booed by the audience.

Student reactions to Ferrell's speech were overall very positive.

"He addressed serious current issues while being understandable and very witty," freshman Ben McGuiggan said.

"He addressed the new president, called for a change in democracy and commented on the election," freshman Sheerin Habibullah agreed.

"He inversely impacted us. He was sarcastic when he talked about political points and made serious points," she said.

While many students agreed that Ferrell's speech was en-

tertaining, student comments regarding the MSE's choice of speakers and the content of Ferrell's speech was less than enthusiastic.

"As far as the Symposium goes, [Ferrell] was not a great choice of speaker. He was funny and provided comic relief, which is what people expected. But there was not much substance," sophomore Andrew Herwell said.

Junior Bryan Benson agreed. "There was virtually no content," he said.

Benson also expressed his frustration about the crowded post-speech meet-and-greet hosted on the floor above Shriver Auditorium, during which several students pushed other students from behind to move closer to the table where Ferrell was seated.

"I think that MSE is really disorganized right now," he said while waiting in the line to meet Ferrell in person. "The staff is not doing anything, which is very disappointing."

MSE distributed 1050 tickets to students, while those without tickets watched the speech from alternate screenings held in Mason Hall and Nolan's.

Ferrell graduated from the University of Southern California and toured with the improvisational troupe The Groundlings before joining *Saturday Night Live* in 1995, where he impersonated President George Bush, singers Robert Goulet and Neil Diamond and Chicago Cubs announcer Harry Caray, among others.

He has starred in numerous films, including *Stepbrothers*, *Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby*, *Bewitched*, *Kicking and Screaming*, *Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy*, *Old School*, *Zoolander*, *A Night At the Roxbury*, *Starsky and Hutch*, *Wedding Crashers* and *Stranger Than Fiction*.

In 2007, Ferrell co-launched "Funny or Die," a comedy Web site mostly featuring short videos, with Gary Sanchez Productions.

"Funny or Die" features videos often starring celebrities such as James Franco.

## An inside look at three of spring's hands-on courses

It's that time of year again. Students scramble to pre-register for courses, desperately try to secure coveted spots in upper-level seminars and finalize their plans for course enrollment as spring registration fast approaches.

This week, the *News-Letter* surveyed the list of courses offered next semester and selected three courses — two old, one new — that would spice up any student's spring schedule.

### 230.199 Criminal Justice & Correction

This course has been offered at Hopkins since 1971, but it has not yet lost its popularity, enrolling up to 60 students each semester.

Led by Professor Stephen Harris of University of Baltimore, the students receive an overview of the present society's criminal justice system through field trips, guest visits and court watching.

"This course will focus on how crime affects an urban society such as Baltimore. Students will explore the cause of crime and how society deals with crimes or ignores them," Harris said.

The course has attracted many students because of the hands-on approach to Harris's teaching.

Students talk to judges, juvenile authorities and even ex-offenders. They also intern with any agent or department of criminal justice they are interested in. Afterwards, students discuss their various experiences working for different departments.

Harris first came up with the idea for the course after being contacted by a Hopkins chaplain.

"He wanted a course which

could connect Hopkins students to everyday problems. One was about Medicare and another was criminal justice. I have been teaching this course since 1971 ... It's been a long time," he said.

### 389.363 Curating Culture at Hopkins' Evergreen Museum & Library: Excellence in 20th Century Design

The Museums and Society department is offering a new hands-on course this semester, focusing on curating the Hopkins Evergreen Museum. Students will have a chance to participate in creating, developing and planning an actual exhibition in the museum, which is open to the public.

The focus of the course will be on 20th century design and American modernism. Professor James Abbott will lead the course by introducing students to two influential cases, Baltimorean Ed Benesch and Czech-born Erno Fabry.

"These two somewhat forgotten men contributed greatly to the promotion of Modernism in post-World War II America," Abbott wrote in an e-mail to the *News-Letter*.

Abbott noted that Hopkins' Evergreen Museum and Library, located north of campus close to



FILE PHOTO  
Participating students will curate their own exhibits at the Evergreen Museum.

Loyola University's campus, is an often-forgotten resource for students interested in art, design, architecture and the museum field.

He added that since the Evergreen Museum contains collections of fine and decorative arts representing many centuries and many different cultures, "It makes the perfect backdrop for courses that address the idea of museums." At the end of the semester, students will serve as curators themselves, selecting objects for their own exhibition.

### 020.125 Biology in Film

Biology in Film, taught by Professor Joel Schildbach, is a course best described as a combination of

academia and pop culture.

Every Thursday night, students watch highly acclaimed Hollywood films while a different faculty member of the Biology department provides an introduction and leads a discussion of the film.

The topics covered include early discoveries in the biomedical arena, genetic and infectious diseases and the potential consequences of human genetic engineering. Students are simply expected to attend the class, watch the film and fill out a questionnaire based on what they just watched.

Many students, more specifically freshmen, have already expressed interest in the course's untraditional combination of film and biological science. Others are attracted to the course's Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) grading policy.

"It would be cool to see applications of biology in real life through motion pictures," freshman Winny Yun said, as she glanced through the courses on the registrar.

"I would love to take this class. I mean, where and how can you watch Hollywood movies for free every week?" Ji-Eun Park, also a freshman, agreed.

However, students interested in taking Biology in Film should note that the course is only worth one credit.

— Written by Young-Hee Kim, Staff Writer

## Security Briefs

### String of rapes hits Mount Vernon

The Mount Vernon area has been hit with a series of rapes and burglaries over the past several weeks and is on high alert for the suspect. The suspect, an unidentified man, typically gains access through unlocked windows, often after climbing up fire escapes and burgles the residences before raping the women of the households.

Among the victims have been students from Maryland Institute College of Art and University of Baltimore. Neighborhood groups, as well as these institutions, began issuing warnings last week, and police have since added patrol officers to the area.

Additionally, violent offenses in Charles Village have risen during the same period of time. Last spring, a streak of sexual assaults, including the rape of a Charles Village woman at gunpoint, stoked fears in the surrounding neighborhoods.

Three of the Mount Vernon rapes occurred between the 1200 and 900 blocks of N. Calvert and St. Paul Streets over the course of the past few months, and the suspect usually strikes between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m.

### Subway robbed at gunpoint

On Nov. 11 at 6:03 a.m., an unidentified black male wearing a gray hooded jacket entered Subway on St. Paul Street, demanded money and eventually produced a black handgun with which he threatened the cashiers.

The cashier gave the suspect the contents of the cash register, and the suspect fled the store via a side door. According to Subway cashier Masendra KC, the suspect did not appear to be a thief when he first entered. He ordered several cookies and demanded more change than he was due.

When the cashiers did not comply, the suspect demanded the entire contents of the cash register. The suspect was last seen running east in the 100 block of E. 33rd Street.

KC called his manager as soon as the suspect had fled, who then encouraged him to call Baltimore City Police. Police responded, and the area was searched with negative results.

"We hope security will improve, but this is Baltimore so [the police] have bigger problems," KC said.

— Written by Payal Patnaik and Stephanie Delman, News and Features Editors

## SECURITY ALERTS

Nov. 9 between 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.: Two tires were slashed on a parked car on the Fresh Food Cafe Loading Dock. The vehicle belonged to a food services employee.

Between Nov. 5 at 4 p.m. and Nov. 7 at 10 a.m.: Three propane tent heaters were taken from an unattended tent on the north side of the Evergreen Carriage House at 4545 N. Charles Street. Baltimore Police responded, and an investigation is continuing.

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NEWS & FEATURES

# Other College News in Brief

## Harvard will reduce spending as endowment investments struggle

Harvard's \$36.9 billion-endowment has plummeted in the current financial crisis, leaving the University scrambling to reduce spending, according to an announcement from President Drew Faust.

Officials have said Harvard may institute a freeze on their budget and wages. The University's Faculty of Arts and Science has lost \$225 million from its budget because of \$4.5 billion lost in market endowment.

The announcement comes after hiring freezes at Boston University, Brown and Cornell, as well as planned budget cuts at Dartmouth College.

Faust stated that there would only be a slight increase in tuition, which creates 20 percent of Harvard's revenue. The cost of tuition, room and board increased 3.5 percent last year to \$47,215. Faust pledged to continue offering financial aid at the same rate.

— Marie Cushing

## No injuries reported after gunshot fired in NKU dormitory

No students were injured despite reports of a gunshot fired at around 4 a.m. on Wednesday in a dormitory at Northern Kentucky University.

According to University officials, the shot was fired after a dispute between a woman's former and current boyfriends. A .25 caliber shell casing was recovered from the scene.



COURTESY OF WWWGRAFTONCOUNTYNH.US  
Carol Elliott blamed "brainwashed" college students for her loss to a Dartmouth College student in the race for Grafton County treasurer.

ered from the scene.

Police have not identified who fired the weapon or any suspects in the case. Investigations are ongoing.

— Marie Cushing

## Dartmouth College student wins local N.H. election

The votes of college students are being credited for helping a junior at Dartmouth College get elected in New Hampshire.

Vanessa Sievers, 20, won the race for Grafton County treasurer by 500 votes.

Her Republican opponent has blamed her loss on "brainwashed college students," according to local reporting.

The defeated incumbent, Carol Elliott, 66, also called Sievers a "teenybopper" and hoped to run for state legislature in the future so she could change the law allowing temporary residents to hold local government seats — the law that allowed Sievers,

a Montana native, to run for the position.

The part-time position of treasurer involves monitoring all county finances and comes with a salary of \$6,408.

— Marie Cushing

## Court rules in favor of ban on academic travel to Cuba

Academic travel to Cuba is still restricted, thanks to a U.S. Court of Appeals ruling. The federal appeals court upheld a lower ruling against the Emergency Coalition to Defend Educational Travel. The coalition of 450 higher-education professionals felt that the Bush administration restrictions violated their freedom.

The court ruled, however, since restrictions did not dictate what was taught, just where. Since the original ruling, the number of programs in Cuba have dwindled dramatically.

— Marie Cushing

## Obama victory sparks protest at Baylor University

Baylor University students burned Obama signs and other paraphernalia on Nov. 5 in protest of the election results. The incident was accompanied by a verbal confrontation between Obama and McCain supporters.

Two contradictory accounts of the events were given to *The Lariat*, Baylor University's campus newspaper. Obama supporters said some of their fellow supporters were driving when they passed a group of white students who began to scream at them.

McCain supporters claimed that eight to 10 white individuals were standing outside talking about the election when a group of African-American women drove by and shouted racial slurs.

According to both Baylor students and a police officer at the scene, no violence occurred.

Baylor administrators and police officers alike have not yet made any official comments about the incident.

— Laura Muth

## UC-Berkeley finds cross-racial friendships may reduce social anxiety

A study conducted by UC Berkeley found that cross-racial friendships could reduce cortisol, a hormone linked to stress, in situations involving individuals from different social groups or ethnicities. This type of anxiety might be a result of prejudice or fears of prejudice.

The study was performed by recruiting 144 Latino and white Berkeley students and dividing

them into two groups.

In one group, students were paired with someone of a different race, while in the other group, students were paired with another member of the same race. The partners met once a week for three weeks.

Saliva samples were used to test participants' cortisol levels before and after each of their weekly meeting. Individuals in cross-racial partnerships had higher cortisol levels before the first meeting but decreased significantly during the following meetings.

After participating in the study, students in cross-racial partnerships reported being more willing to form cross-racial friendships.

While cortisol levels also decreased throughout the course of the study for participants in same-race partnerships, they did not report any change in their willingness to form cross-racial friendships.

Authors of the study believe that people who have established cross-racial friendships are then more likely to associate themselves with that social group and therefore experience less anxiety.

The study will be published in the November issue of the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*.

— Laura Muth

## Hundreds become sick after outbreak of norovirus at Hope College

A college in Michigan opened for classes today after a campus virus outbreak made more than 400 members of staff and student body ill.

Officials at Hope College cancelled classes on Friday after the norovirus outbreak was identified. Dining halls were closed, and several sporting events were postponed.

The norovirus causes vomiting and diarrhea for 24 to 48 hours and is contagious for three days after recovery.

Students and staff were warned against congregating in groups.

— Marie Cushing

## "Open Yale" brings Ivy League to the world

Yale University professors are teaching classes all around the world through the online project Open Yale.

The Web site will allow people from around the world to watch free videos of Yale professors lecturing.

The project was always intended to provide information to an international audience. It has been accessed from Quito, Ecuador to the University of Bahrain.

Open Yale was preceded by a similar project, known as AllLearn, which the University of Oxford and Stanford University also participated in.

However, that venture was ultimately a failure and had to close in 2006. In contrast, Open Yale is thriving.

Some of the professors involved believe that the biggest reason Open Yale is so successful in comparison to AllLearn is that Open Yale is free.

AllLearn had fees for accessing lectures that ranged anywhere from \$80 to as high as \$300.

According to Diana Kleiner, Open Yale Courses director, the Web site has been used by viewers in 187 countries.

— Laura Muth

## Study shows that grandparents' care is safe

A recent Bloomberg School of Public Health study found that children who are cared for by their grandparents during the day rather than by day care center workers or other childcare professionals are often at a lower risk for injury than those cared for in other settings.

The study was led by David Bishai, a Population, Family and Reproductive Health professor at the Bloomberg School, who, with his team of researchers, sought to determine whether or not grandparents serve as poor temporary caregivers.

Bishai explained that the incentive for this study came from an original concern over the well-being of teenagers who had been raised by their grandparents.

"There is a concern that today's grandparents come from a generation where safety wasn't as big of a deal, that grandparents would need to be retooled in

modern baby safety," Bishai said. "But the two major findings [in the study] are that grandparents aren't dangerous [caregivers] and that in some cases they are safer than the alternatives."

The study utilized data collected on about 5,500 newborns raised in 15 cities in the United States between 1996 and 1997, and it watched as they grew over the past 10 years.

The newborns analyzed came from diverse economic backgrounds and varied family units, although most of the children lived with at least one parent and were simply watched by their grandparents during the day.

The study also found that injury rates among newborns and young children were considerably higher in households in which there was an absent father.

"We can't infer that the average grandparent is better than the average parent," Bishai said. "But

75 percent of all children born in Baltimore City are born to single mothers. Grandparents are the natural people to turn to in that situation, and this is shown by a trend toward increasing care by grandparents."

However, Bishai stressed that the study did not determine that all grandparents can be considered capable of infallible means of childcare.

"The implication of the study is basically a 'don't worry' implication, that grandparents are not necessarily dangerous caregivers," Bishai said. "But that doesn't mean that any mother or father isn't going to worry about leaving their children with their grandparents. Obviously there are some grandparents you would not want watching your children. If Grandpa is absent-minded, you probably wouldn't let him take care of your child."

— Rebecca Fishbein



FILE PHOTO

A study conducted at the Bloomberg School of Public Health showed that children who are cared for by their grandparents are generally not at a greater risk of being injured.

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## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

# New Maryland slots referendum may alleviate state's budget crisis

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

Article XIX, which will allow the state to grant licenses for up to 15,000 slot machines at five locations across the state. These locations will include Baltimore City, Laurel, Rocky Gap, Cecil County and the Eastern Shore.

On Oct. 8, Comptroller Peter Franchot wrote a public letter to University President William Brody, denouncing Hopkins' Senior Associate for Finance and Administration Frederick Puddester.

Franchot, who once co-sponsored two bills in the Maryland State legislature to introduce a gaming industry, opposed Question 2 based on his claim that the proposal would increase crime and addiction across the state.

Franchot served as a member of the steering committee of Marylanders United to Stop Slots. In his letter, Franchot denounced Puddester for his involvement as chairman of the pro-slots group and warned Brody that allowing a senior administration official to be involved in such a campaign risked sully the Hopkins name.

"I fear that Dean Puddester's actions will reflect negatively on the reputation of Hopkins University and its staff, as the Dean is now a full-time attack dog for a political campaign funded by the gambling industry while still in your employ," Franchot wrote.

Puddester was asked by O'Malley to chair the pro-slots campaign For Maryland For Our Future, which Franchot accused of negative campaigning and an attempt "to buy the upcoming election."

Puddester is also the chair of the Maryland Stadium Authority, which also stands to benefit from the new legislation.

"Mr. Puddester was involved in the campaign on his own time, and like any citizen he is free to do that," Dennis O'Shea, executive director of communication and public affairs, said.

"I am glad and proud of President Brody for giving Fred [Puddester] the freedom to pursue his own beliefs in his spare time," City Councilman Bill Henry said.

"It was a perfectly reasonable thing for the comptroller to ask of President Brody and it was perfectly reasonable for President Brody to refuse it."

Puddester and Franchot were both unavailable for comment.

In a statement released after the victory of the slots amendment, Franchot emphasized his perception of the campaign for Question 2 as an unequal battle heavily influenced by interest groups.

"We were outspent 10 to one; had the state Democratic establishment against us; the lobbyists and the deep-pockets of the national gambling industry," he said.

Furthermore, Franchot, who runs the state's finances, continues to insist, "This gambling gimmick will not solve our budget problems."

According to For Maryland For Our Future, Maryland is laboring under an enormous budgetary shortfall that could amount to \$700 million annually.

Shaun Adamec, the deputy press secretary for Martin O'Malley, confirmed the connection between Maryland's budget crunch and Question 2.

In 2007, the Maryland General Assembly passed legislation providing a statutory framework for spending of funds, contingent upon the voter approval of Question 2 granted on Election Day.

According to the framework, 48.5 percent of the slot machine revenue will be spent on education; another 33 percent will go to the slot machine operators, with 7 percent earmarked for horse racing purses, 1.5 percent to Small, Minority and Women-Owned Businesses Account.

Question 2 was worded as "Authorizing slot machines to

fund education."

All education funding will go directly into the Education Trust Fund, which will disperse money to a variety of academic institutions including community colleges, K through 12, and direct funding programs, according to Adamec.

"The referendum was a fairly sizeable part of closing the structural deficit that this administration inherited from our predecessors," Adamec said, referring both to the policies of O'Malley's predecessor, Robert Ehrlich, and to the in-built problem of Maryland state finances.

A structural deficit occurs when the costs a government must bear are larger than the state income, with no foreseeable pattern changes.

Budget shortfalls have become so severe in Maryland that many state activists worry about possible cuts in state services, such as in education, according to the For Maryland For Our Future Web site.

Maryland is one among many state governments now facing increased strain on its resources due to the national financial crisis and increasingly limited liquidity.

"The state has a legal mandate, not to mention an ethical one, to balance the budget," Adamec said.

Henry confirmed the severity of the budget crisis, in both Baltimore City and across the state. Henry said he wished the City could find more money to invest in affordable housing.

Henry estimated that Baltimore City needed "\$2 to 3 billion worth of investment" in this sector, a wish that will likely remain a dream, short of federal funding.

State officials expect that the 15,000 slot machines will bring in a substantial amount of new revenue for the state — perhaps as much as \$700 million by 2012.

Some members of the Hopkins community shared Franchot's

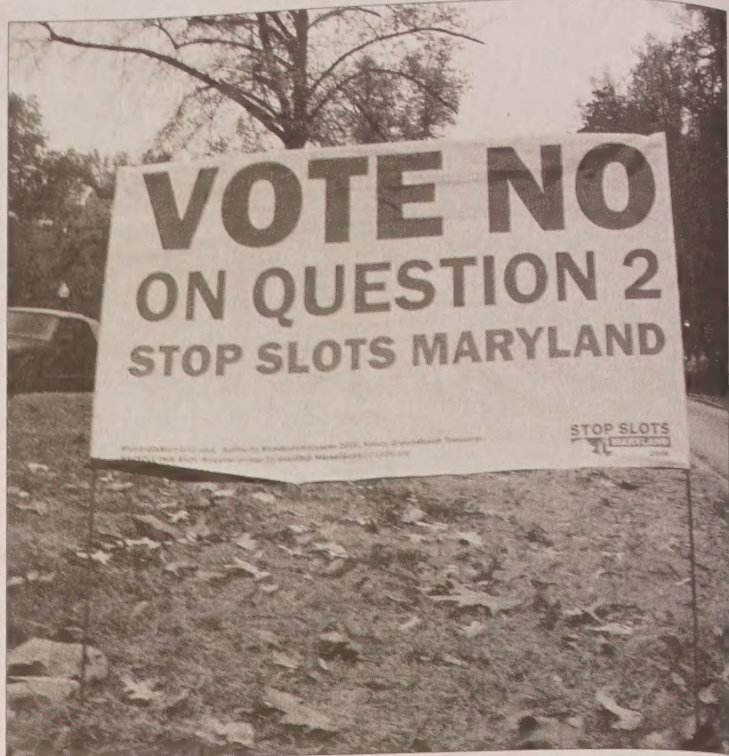
concerns about the problems of Question 2.

Junior Ben Mays, who voted against Question 2, based on his assessment of the proposal as "not a moral, just or equitable way to solve the lack of funding for public schools."

"The thing is that the people who use slot machines are not the wealthiest members of society, and it's a distribution of wealth from the bottom to the public sector," he said. "If we want to fund public schools we should do so in a more equitable fashion, one that does not extract money from people with gambling addictions."

Henry, however, disagreed with the view of the anti-slots coalitions and voters like Mays. In the councilman's opinion, "the public harm" of slots "is outweighed by the right of the individual to gamble — especially because we already have a state lottery," he explained, referring to gambling machines that have long been available in local bars.

Furthermore, as a representative to Baltimore City government, he judged the legislation



COURTESY OF ANNIE LIN

Despite strong opposition, the Maryland slots referendum passed in last week's election.

as well worth the introduction of more gambling machines "if on the local level we can get another \$40 to \$50 million from slots."

Adamec said that O'Malley's office remains optimistic about the changes Question 2 may

help affect. "The election delivered the result that the governor had hoped for," Adamec said. "There's a lot of work to do now. It's the first step in a long process that will ultimately bring new funding for education in Maryland."

## A night in the life of a campus "HopCop"

The News-Letter takes a ride with security officers to discuss the extent of their jurisdiction

By GISELLE CHANG  
Staff Writer

In light of concerns over campus security that arose from last week's election night arrests, this News-Letter reporter spent one Sunday night shadowing a Hopkins Campus Police Officer, more commonly known as a "HopCop," to determine the extent of their powers.

According to Officer Marty Fridinger, a Baltimore City Police officer of 25 years and Hopkins police officer for 10 years, "HopCops" are unable to exercise full police powers, which include making arrests beyond the Hopkins campus and around the Homewood campus.

Fridinger explained that the campus officers are commissioned by the University and thus limited to the Hopkins campus and surrounding areas.

"Say something happened here on the streets — we don't really have police powers unless it's a felony," he explained.

"If I see someone getting robbed, I can jump out and assist, but any [civilian] can actually do that."

HopCops are under orders to report suspicious or illegal activity that they see on the streets surrounding campus, but they are not legally certified to intervene themselves.

"We can't actually get out to enforce the law if someone's breaking into a car. In that scenario, you call it in," Fridinger said.

In contrast to felonies, defined by Fridinger as crimes with a minimum jail time of one year, campus police officers are able to respond to misdemeanors such as car break-ins or the presence of suspicious persons by notifying city police officers.

Fridinger introduced Officer Bill O'Donnell, one of several Baltimore police officers who patrol the campus, as the liaison officer between campus police and the city department.

"We see him all the time. If anything needs to be reported, if we need help or something, we call Bill," Fridinger said. "There are a lot of things that can happen [on the streets] and we have to report on them, but it's stuff we can't take action on ourselves."

Under the Jeanne Clery Act, named after Lehigh University freshman Jeanne Clery who was raped and murdered in 1986, the campus police must report on all crime near the campus even when it involves something that they cannot act

upon.

While Hopkins campus police officers are confined in their actions against crime, they are highly trained professionals; many, such as Fridinger, are retired city police officers, and all receive on-campus training that includes responding to sexual harassment, hate crimes and first aid.

However, according to Hopkins Security Lieutenant William Ritmiller, the HopCops have full authority and police powers within the borders of the Homewood campus.

Though Fridays and Saturdays are the busiest nights, Ritmiller said that even on a Sunday evening there are 10 patrol cars circling the Hopkins area and 27 contract pedestrian guards spread out around the area.

In response to security concerns, Ritmiller explained how campus security has always been quick to improve safety in certain threatened areas.

As an example, he pointed to the incident of a violent robbery that occurred near One World Café three years ago.

Following the incident, additional HopCops were recruited to patrol the area.

Besides responding to occasional incidents of crime, officers like Fridinger spend their shifts keeping an eye on the students and staff.

"We get calls for different things. We always tell the kids not to go walking around here at night," he said.

"I pick up a lot of students walking up the street coming from Safeway or Penn station because they don't want to wait for the escort van."

While circling the Seton Hall parking lot, which is part of his beat, Fridinger stopped a pedestrian, though he had interacted with her in the past and knew she was a faculty member, simply to check up on the situation and inform



DANIEL LITWIN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Officer Marty Fridinger showed a News-Letter reporter around.

her that the building had been locked.

According to Fridinger, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday nights have become quiet for security thanks to the administration's schedule change instituted last spring that puts extra emphasis on Monday, Wednesday and Friday classes.

However, the incidents following the presidential election last week demonstrated that weeknights cannot be ruled out as being uneventful.

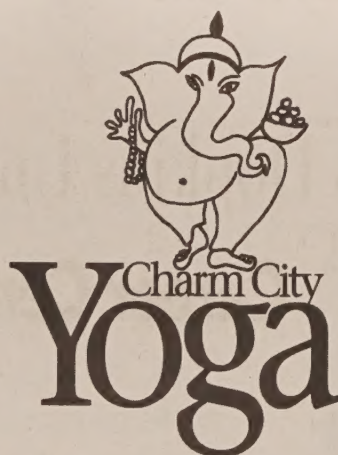
Ritmiller emphasized that Tuesday's events were a result of only the city police department's actions. He added that although his shift had ended earlier that night and there had been no sign of disturbances by the time he left, he was unsurprised by the unfolding events given the time of night that they happened.

"The bars, PJ's and others were emptying out [after the election results were announced] and the students just all met up on the corner," he said.

Tuesday night's events reminded Officer Fridinger, on a lighter note, of the most bizarre incident he ever experienced as a campus police officer.

"It was after some sports event ... and a whole bunch of boys on the team were running through campus in their birthday suits!" he exclaimed.

According to Fridinger, this sort of incident is more suited to the HopCops' realm of jurisdiction.



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## NEWS &amp; FEATURES

## UPenn Provost will lead Hopkins as new president, come March

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

"both undergraduate and graduate students in the arts [and] sciences," as well as "professional schools including medicine, engineering, business and others."

Once Daniels found out he was considered a serious candidate for the job, he traveled to Baltimore on a "stealth visit" to get to know the city and the University. He had to keep his visit a secret since the entire search process was highly confidential.

"As much as I knew about Hopkins, I had never been on the campus," he explained. "I made my way to Homewood, spent some time on the campus here and went to East Baltimore and walked through the Medical complex and the health science complex. Then after that, I, as any self-respecting Philadelphian would, went and got some crab cakes and came back home."

His family, he said, "is ready to swap cheese steaks for crab cakes."

Hopkins Provost Kristina Johnson, who will be working closely with Daniels, expressed her enthusiasm about his selection, saying that she had "admired his work from afar." She also stressed that his background in the social sciences and humanities will be a perfect complement to her background in the sciences.

"I think he's terrific. He has a great vision and a commitment to multi-disciplinary research," she said. "I look forward to learning a lot from him and his perspective on higher education. It's a terrific opportunity for me personally and for the University."

Since the Board of Trustees officially voted to appoint Daniels president-elect on Tuesday, he has not yet had time to fully orient himself with the University and was therefore hesitant to comment on any specific policies or programs he might implement or change.

"I think at this point, before I take office officially... it would be premature for me to start talking about specific priorities," he said. "But for me, the very clear priority that comes up at this point is to simply learn the institution. That way, I can be... much more credible in championing its priorities and championing its academic mission."

But even without specifics, reaction from University administrators has been largely positive, especially at Homewood.

"I am very, very pleased by the selection of Ron Daniels," Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences Adam Falk wrote in an e-mail to the *News-Letter*. "It is clear that he has a deep appreciation for the unique and critical role of undergraduate and graduate education in the arts and sciences."

Dean of Undergraduate Education Paula Burger was also impressed by his work at Penn, especially with undergraduates.

"I can see him relating easily to undergraduates, and I feel confident that he will help advance the vision that we have for a distinctive Hopkins undergraduate education, both inside and outside the classroom," she wrote in an e-mail.

When asked if she had any concerns about the new president-elect, Burger said she had

none, "Unless, it is that, since he is a lawyer, we may see an uptick in the interest our students have in considering law school. But, that might be a nice balance to our premeds!"

Kurt Herzer, the sole undergraduate member of the Search Committee, believes that Daniels will be a champion for undergraduates. "It is my unequivocal belief that he will not only have undergraduate interests in mind but will make them central to his presidency," Herzer wrote in an e-mail to the *News-Letter*.

President Brody echoed these sentiments of Daniels: "He's very committed to undergraduate education."

Hopkins Student Government Association (SGA) President Sonny Chandrasekhar spoke to the president of Penn's SGA to get an idea of what he should expect from Daniels and was pleased with the response.

"He's really enthused about working with undergraduates and sees them as an integral part of the institution," Chandrasekhar said.

Chandrasekhar is pleased to have someone with a non-traditional background heading up the institution.

"I'm really excited to get some fresh opinions," he said.

**Daniels's Background**

Daniels was born in Toronto, Ontario to a family that quickly instilled the value of higher education in him, which would later become his passion.

Daniels's father, uncle and aunt were the first in his family to receive higher education.

"Education not only ensured their material comfort, but, just as important, it fulfilled the promise of equal opportunity in our society," he said. "I am one generation removed from that transformative experience, but I have never lost sight of the impact it has had on me and my family."

Daniels went on to receive his B.A. in Political Science and Economics from the University of Toronto in 1982, and he received his J.D. degree from The Faculty of Law at the University of Toronto in 1986. He also served as the Editor-in-Chief of the Faculty of Law Review during his time there. He then went on to study at the Yale Law School, where he received his masters of law in 1988.

"It was just a little over two decades ago that I graduated from law school with truthfully the dimmest appreciation that I would make a lifelong commitment to the world of ideas," Daniels said. "The fact that I am standing here today says as much of my good fortune of having professors and later dear colleagues and friends who saw things in me that I could scarcely see in myself. And without their persistence, without their faith, I know that I would not have heeded my true calling."

He was appointed a professor of law at the University of Toronto in 1988 and became dean of the law school in 1995. During his time as dean, Daniels oversaw the doubling of the faculty and a huge cut in the student-to-faculty ratio: from 18-1 to 12-1. He also played a huge part in significantly increasing the endowment

from just \$1 million to \$57 million over nine years.

He also started a program to teach law and justice at two inner-city high schools. During a speech to the Homewood Community on Tuesday, he mentioned

his enthusiasm and respect for Hopkins's Baltimore Scholars Program, which encourages Baltimore Public Schools students to apply to Hopkins and provides accepted students with full tuition scholarships.

Additionally, Daniels was intimately involved in public policy in Toronto and Canada as a whole. He also founded and chaired Pro Bono Students Canada, which places over 2,000 law students each year with community-based organizations in Canada.

Daniels has also served short stints as a visiting professor, both at Cornell and Yale's schools of law.

In 2005, he was selected to be provost at Penn, where the deans of Penn's 12 schools reported to him on academic and budgetary matters.

"There's been no part of my

job at Penn that I've enjoyed more than working with the medical school and health sciences complex," Daniels said. His experience there led him to a greater appreciation of the sciences and also sparked his interest in working with a medicine and science-focused institution.

"The opportunity to be part of an institution that has the world's leading medical school and health complex is something that was very exciting to me."

At Penn, Daniels served as provost under President Amy Gutmann, who launched a major program called

the Penn Compact a few months before he came. Together, Gutmann and Daniels implemented a number of innovative programs under the umbrella of the Penn Compact.

For example, they began a financial aid program that eliminated loans for students receiving financial aid, replacing them with grants so these students would not be in debt at graduation. They also set a minimum stipend for Arts and Sciences

doctoral students at \$19,200, which is much higher than many at Hopkins.

When asked about the possibility of implementing a similar grant program at Hopkins, Daniels said, "The only thing I can say with clear confidence and self-assurance is that access [for students with few financial resources] will be a very important priority."

Daniels is highly committed to inter-disciplinary learning, and in 2006, he implemented a new general education curriculum that required undergraduate students to complete two interdisciplinary courses: one that integrates the humanities and the social sciences and another that integrates math and sciences. This led to an entirely new program called the Arts and Sciences Visual Studies Program, which integrates philosophy, cognitive science, art history and psychology in the study of "seeing."

Daniels also helped develop the Penn World Scholars Program, which encouraged international students to attend the university. During his time at Penn, they also began extensive work with Botswana's government and the university there in their efforts to fight HIV and AIDS.

Additionally, academic courses relating to community service have grown 30 percent since 2004.

Within months of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Daniels organized a symposium in Washington, D.C. that brought together policy makers, scholars, and private and public sector leaders to come up with better strategies for saving lives and speeding recovery

in the wake of a disaster.

In his personal research, Daniels focuses on economics, public policy and law, especially in areas like corporate and securities law, social and economic regulation and the role of law in legal institutions in promoting third world development. He has also written and edited a number of books and published dozens of articles. In addition to his position as president, Daniels will also hold an appointment in the Department of Political Science.

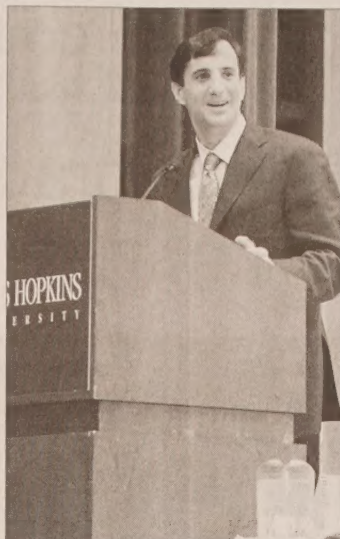
**Family**

Daniels's wife, Joanne Rosen, is a human rights attorney. She served as counsel to the Ontario Human Rights Commission in Toronto while Daniels was a professor and dean at the law school. She was also an adjunct professor at the University of Toronto law school. She is now a lecturer at the Annenberg School for Communication at Penn, where she teaches courses on communications law and on the right to privacy. She is a 1982 honors graduate of York University in Toronto. She received a masters in psychology from the University of Toronto in 1983 and then attended law school there, earning her J.D. in 1986.

Daniels and his wife have four children. Their eldest daughter, Roberta, is 17 years old and is attending a boarding school.

His two sons, Ryan and Drew, are 16, and their youngest daughter, Alexandra, is 14.

The family will be moving into the Nichols House at Homewood, which Brody and his wife have occupied for the last 12 years.



DANIEL LITWIN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Shortly after the announcement was made, Daniels addressed the Hopkins community in Shirer.

## Things I've learned with Prof. Aaron Goodfellow

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1  
concepts that interest me.

N-L: Why did you take those five years off before graduate school?

AG: It wasn't clear to me if I wanted to go back to school yet. I knew that I wanted to eventually, but I had other things that I wanted to do. I really wanted to go climbing, and I really wanted to go skiing. I wanted to indulge in those things. And it wasn't clear to me if an academic life was something that I wanted to commit to.

Then, after five years of living in the world of construction, which is either steak or ramen, I was like, there has got to be a different way of living.

N-L: How did you get involved with your field work with infectious diseases in Baltimore?

AG: It was a very accidental and unanticipated set of circumstances that brought me to that work. I was awarded a post-doc in the division of Infectious Disease at the Hopkins medical school. I was asked to take part in an ongoing study that was doing a large scale survey of the ecological risks that place adolescents at a heightened danger for sexually transmitted diseases, and I was teamed with a person who had never done any ethnographic field work. So

I was there to assist, and I got hooked.

N-L: What hooked you?

AG: It was remarkable. What really hooked me was the stark contrast of moving from an institution like the Hopkins medical school or the Homewood Campus to different sites of healing and different sites of care that were literally in the shadows, one mile away at drug and alcohol treatment centers in west Baltimore, but appearing to be a completely different world.

N-L: Compared to the other places you've conducted your research, how have you found Baltimore to be different?

AG: I think what's different about Baltimore is the shift in atmosphere where you can literally go block to block and the social climate changes radically. There are a lot of other cities that have this quality, but there is something very striking about the way that you just walk three blocks in Baltimore and you walk through three completely different environments, three separate social worlds. And it's very easy to operate as though the worlds don't touch one another, but they absolutely do.

N-L: You're about to complete your dissertation on gay men and families. What was your research about?

AG: I was looking at the meaning of being a father and forming a family for same-sex couples and what is the desire to do so. We have such a strictly defined notion of the family as being a heterosexual institution.

Just look at Proposition 8 in California that was just passed [to ban same-sex marriage]. You can see that there's a real anxiety that circulates throughout the entire country about the possibility that something like marriage and the family is not an exclusively heterosexual arrangement.

And I was interested in how that societal anxiety, the political message that is circulated in the wider public, is mediated in the intimate spaces of the family relations themselves.

N-L: Your developing research will look into the injuries incurred by soldiers coming back from the war in Iraq. What sparked your interest in that topic?

AG: I was on a long flight from California back to Baltimore, and I read a *Rolling Stone* article about the profile of injuries that are generated by the conflict in Iraq. I was really interested by this



FILE PHOTO

Professor Goodfellow was among those arrested in the post-election night fever.

because the profile of injuries in Iraq is completely different from any other war. This difference has to do with the way the body is now armored and the way fighting takes place now.

The majority of the injuries in Iraq are concussive force injuries. The injury is completely unapparent to the exterior, so the body's visible surface may not be disrupted in any way, shape or form. Yet the body is profoundly altered.

I was very curious about what decides a successful rehabilitation when the surface of the body is not affected. It's not like you can visibly recognize the injury or the wound, but it's something psychological as well as a possible neurological alteration of the body. So my question is: What constitutes recovery when you can't see a physical cure?

N-L: Where will you conduct this research?

AG: Baltimore would be the perfect place. Between Walter Reed [Army Medical Center] and the Aberdeen Proving Grounds, they are developing many new therapies around here.

N-L: Can you tell me about the series of events that took place on election night prior to your arrest?

AG: I was coming back from a party with a friend, and we drove through the intersection on 33rd and St. Paul. This was after the results of the election had been announced. There was a huge crowd of people in the streets chanting 'Obama' and 'Yes, we can!'

It was an event that was so out of the ordinary for Charles Village and for Hopkins, that it was so infectious. It was an incredibly warm celebration, and to see this taking place, it made us very curious. So we went to join and see what was going on. It was very

bizarre because the police were right there in the crowd.

N-L: When did they begin arresting people?

AG: At some point, something changed and the attitude of the police completely switched. We ran into police who were telling us to move and go home, but not allowing us to move in the direction of our home. We were kind of penned in.

The next thing I knew, they had grabbed my friend, and of course, I tried to intervene. And then that was it for me. I was cuffed and stuffed into a police van.

N-L: Do you feel like the Baltimore City Police Department is obligated to do anything to redress the situation on election night?

AG: The sad thing is they are obligated to do nothing. After we were arrested, the police were actively trying to intimidate us and cement our fear. They wouldn't say what we had been charged with. When we were taken to [the Central Booking facility], some people were strip searched, and others were put in solitary confinement.

For every single one of these violations, including the aggression at the hands of the police, the ACLU has standing lawsuits against the Baltimore City Police Department. What is interesting to me about that is it shows the level of everyday violence perpetrated by the police, with full knowledge that it is being challenged in the court of law.

N-L: Are you going to do anything about it?

AG: The detective refused to take my complaint. I think at minimum, the police department should formally apologize. But will it happen? Probably not, it's just a pipe dream.

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NEWS & FEATURES

# Romance, revived: It's not dead after all!

Romance is dead. But that's not news. People have been making that argument for years now. In fact, as a statement, "Romance is dead" has really lost its bite. So let me rephrase: Romance isn't dead. It simply has undergone an extensive evolutionary transformation.

I had a boyfriend once who used to tell me that all of his romantic ideas had already been carried out in the movies. And he was probably right. The media has capitalized on the bleeding-hearted teenage girls (OK, and adults) who swoon at the sight of a beautiful man showering heart-felt emotional symbols over a beautiful woman.

Unfortunately, after so many dozens of brightly colored roses sent to the office and after so many "Nobody puts Baby in the corner" moments of heroism, typical acts of romance become, well, typical. Sure, flowers will probably always be at least somewhat romantic, but how boring can you get?

In high school, romance was black and blue and bleeding. I still have lyrics scribbled in black pen on my green Converse sneakers (that I spent days searching for on the Internet) that read, "My smile's an open wound without you." These seven epic words sung by the ever-elloquent Fall Out Boy really summed up all of my feelings about my boyfriend at the time.

I can't tell you exactly when love became so tragic that festering wounds and loving came to be comparable sensations, but let me tell you, no truer words were sung back in 2005.

Not only did our generation have to suffer through the influx of emo culture and all its unbearably devastating emotion (and utter loneliness), but we also all saw the death of the dating culture.

I don't think I have ever been courted by means of a typical date. My first-ever boyfriend took me on one date: We went to the parking lot of the town movie theater and ate pizza Lunchables while sitting on a blanket crusted with God-knows-what that he pulled out from the back of his car. I would be lying if I told you this wasn't one of the most fun dates I have ever been on. Sure, it was 2 p.m. and we were sur-

rounded by 13-year-old skater punks who mocked us with "oooo's" and kissy noises, but it also alleviated all the pressure of a typical date.

It wouldn't be for another year or two before a boyfriend took me on a real date. I wore a dress, did my hair and donned high-heels. I got all the way to our table before tripping loudly and grandly in front of the entire restaurant.

Years of inexperience in dating will do that to you.

Otherwise, dates are no longer trips to the movies with the yawn/reach-over-the-shoulder technique you see in the movies. I might argue that dates involve far more bumping and grinding on the dance floor, and while men still offer to buy women drinks, the drink is more likely to be a shot of tequila than a glass of the house red.

I wouldn't go so far as to suggest the death of dating is one of the causes, or effects, of the end of romance; in fact, I don't think romance necessitates the ideal date you see in movies where two people on a giant (sinking) ship meet fatefully, split a bottle of wine and the man ends up sketching the woman in the nude.

One of the positive results of the evolution of romance is that once the old romance became trite, the new romance needed to get more personal. Now instead of the single rose apology, boys can be more creative. I once got a drink from Starbucks as an apology, and even though he chose hot chocolate instead of my favored chai tea latte, I was sincerely touched. Romance certainly isn't dead. It's just wearing a different dress.

In his acceptance speech, Barack Obama thanked Michelle, praising her as "my best friend, the rock of our family and the love of my life." I guess he couldn't very well have told her that she had him at hello. That's already been done. His speech was nevertheless one of the most romantic praises I have ever heard.

Romance has transgressed from roses and hand-holding, to painfully emotional, to simply what it is today: something far more personal, maybe slightly more awkward, but certainly just as potent as ever.

Next discovery: cinnamon. I sprinkle it on my French toast, but other than that, I'm not big on the Tic-Tacs and Big Red. My mistake. Cinnamon is a mighty antiseptic in the herbal world. It has antifungal, anti-parasitic and anti-bacterial properties. One study conducted in 1976 proved that cinnamon prevents growth of toxic mold on bread — little wonder herbalists recommend sprinkling some cinnamon on cleaned wounds.

Cinnamon contains eugenol, the main component in the essential oil of cloves. For the same reason that clove cigarettes numb the throat, the eugenol in cinnamon has anesthetic effects on wounds.

Cinnamon is also just plain good for small tummy pains. It helps relieve internal gas and is thought to aid in the digestion of fats (good ingredient for cakes and cookies!).

Like aloe, that humble but succulent plant, cinnamon should be a kitchen essential. Aloe for stove burns, cinnamon for cuts.

I did not discover the next tart berry; it was suggested by a promiscuous girlfriend prone to urinary tract infections (UTI). Cranberries are overflowing with vitamin C (early American sailors ate them to prevent scurvy), and cranberry juice is well known for its ability to prevent UTIs.

Research has suggested that cranberry juice helps prevent UTIs by inhibiting the guilty

ones that cause TB, food poisoning and UTIs. Garlic also contains many other sulphur compounds that can improve circulation, lower cholesterol and boost the immune system (very good for the heart).

Last, this smelly apotropaic is a potent antioxidant, and has notable anti-cancer properties. A study done by the Iowa Women's

# Fresh soup, not seats, guaranteed at Soup's On

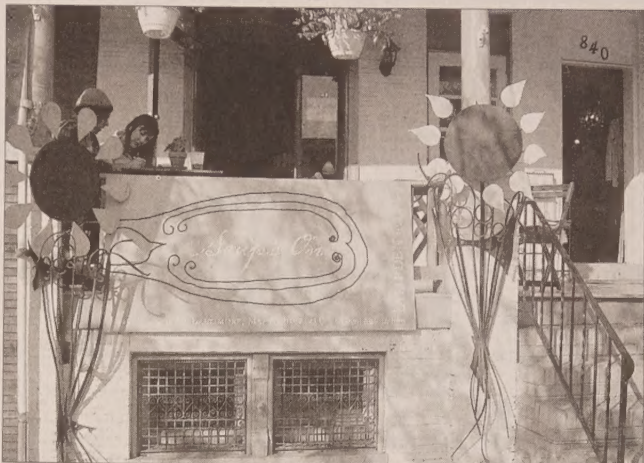
Soup's On first caught my eye during cross country practice as I ran with my team through the neighborhood of Hampden, just west of Homewood. I had never seen a restaurant specializing primarily in soups, and I thought, "what a great idea!"

After wanting to try Soup's On for several months, I finally made the journey back to Hampden last week. Soup's On is about 15 minutes from campus by foot. To walk there simply walk past Wyman Park and take a right on the Avenue, Hampden's well-known shopping and dining area. The small, cozy café is squeezed into a row of eclectic boutiques and other shops. It's a perfect destination for a hot lunch. Tasteful decorations reflect the whimsical nature of Hampden itself. The door handle is shaped like a soup ladle and a sign on the door reads "Soup's On" when the café is open and "Soup's Off" when it is closed. Inside, the vibrant paprika walls, showcasing various modern works of art, contrast nicely against a hardwood floor.

Seating inside, however, is quite limited. There are several wooden tables and a counter with stools runs along the right wall, accompanied by a row of hanging blue lights. I've found it can get quite warm inside the restaurant at times, so take advantage of the outside seating that Soup's On offers, if the weather permits.

Cynthia Shea, the chef and owner of Soup's On, offers a different selection of soups daily. Before you travel to Soup's On, you might want to check their Web site ([soupsonhampden.com](http://soupsonhampden.com)) for the day's soup choices.

All soups are made from scratch, and every ingredient is fresh. The soups are heated to order and then brought to you at your table, so rest assured that your soup will be piping hot. A bowl of soup comes with either a French baguette, or, for an extra charge, a half salad or



COURTESY OF CATE WHITE  
In winter months Soup's On is an ideal spot for lunch, with a variety of hot soups.

half sandwich.

On my first visit to Soup's On, I ordered a bowl of chili and a slice of baguette on the side. It was probably the best bowl of chili I have ever had. It wasn't too spicy, nor was it too salty, both of which I consider common chili faults. The red beans didn't overpower the flavor of the ground beef, and the cheese sprinkled

on top was a nice touch. The crusty, soft French baguette matched the quality of the chili as well.

I enjoyed my bowl of chili so much that I made a second trip to Soup's On one week later. On this day, Cynthia offered

New England Style Clam Chowder, Sweet Potato with Pecan Crostini Soup, Sausage, Tortellini and Spinach Soup and Squash and Crab Bisque with Cinnamon Croutons.

As soon as I saw the words "Crab Bisque" I was sold. Who would have ever thought to combine crab with squash? The result: The squash toned down the richness of the crab — an incred-

ibly brilliant, imaginative idea. I also loved the cinnamon croutons, which meshed well with the subtle sweetness of the squash. Wow.

Wanting to try the other options but faced with a full tummy, I discovered that Soup's On will let you sample



Elizabeth Laseter  
Food Fan-addict

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# Skip the Advil, try the herbs in your kitchen as remedies

I am one of billions of females over the age of 12 who is blessed with nature's gift — menstruation. It sucks. I get cramps, I get anxious and moody, my stomach hurts and I get indigestion. For two days a month I feel like I've ingested sharp pebbles.

So I did something stupid — I pretended I was my cat after she was fixed.

The only thing that would make her shut up after her operation was catnip. She loves it. I figured it made her lack of a uterus and ovaries less painful.

So I sprinkled some of her weed in my lemon tea in hopes that I was indeed a cat lady, as so many people accuse me of, and the stuff would do me favors as well.

I was not rational, but boy was I lucky. It worked like a charm — all of my symptoms were knocked out. So I got curious: How do catnip's superpowers work and what other kitchen herbs have medicinal properties?

Kitty euphoria and the aforementioned positive human effects come from a bicyclic compound, nepetalactone. On humans, nepetalactone has antispasmodic effects on smooth muscles. It can help soothe the muscles of the digestive tract, and for women, it can help to relieve menstrual cramps. Nepetalactone also works as a mild sedative and tranquilizer on humans, a good remedy for insomnia and anxiety. Even with the caffeine in my lemon tea, I was out like a snoozeloozing kitty.

Lisa Ely  
To Health With It

Next discovery: cinnamon. I sprinkle it on my French toast, but other than that, I'm not big on the Tic-Tacs and Big Red. My mistake. Cinnamon is a mighty antiseptic in the herbal world. It has antifungal, anti-parasitic and anti-bacterial properties. One study conducted in 1976 proved that cinnamon prevents growth of toxic mold on bread — little wonder herbalists recommend sprinkling some cinnamon on cleaned wounds.

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Research has suggested that cranberry juice helps prevent UTIs by inhibiting the guilty

bacteria, E.coli, from adhering to the uroepithelial cells. If the bacteria are unable to adhere to the urinary tract walls, they can't cause an infection; they'll just be flushed out with the next waterfall. Cranberry juice also serves to deodorize urine, so not only will you be bacteria free down south, you'll also smell nicer. Drink that Ocean Spray. (Chaser?)

Garlic is another underestimated herbal wonder. It has been used for thousands of years, prescribed by ancient Egyptian herbalists, Roman and Greek physicians and even Russian Red Army doctors during WWII during a penicillin shortage. Garlic, like cinnamon, is a little known antibiotic in today's world.

Today we have penicillin and ampicillin and all the other cillins and mycins, so garlic has been mostly forgotten. However, garlic actually has potent antibacterial and antifungal properties due to the compound allicin, which is produced when fresh garlic is finely chopped or crushed.

Alllicin is like weak penicillin, but studies show its effectiveness against many bacteria, including the

ones that cause TB, food poisoning and UTIs. Garlic also contains many other sulphur compounds that can improve circulation, lower cholesterol and boost the immune system (very good for the heart).

Last, this smelly apotropaic is a potent antioxidant, and has notable anti-cancer properties. A study done by the Iowa Women's

Health Study of 41,000 found that "women who regularly consumed garlic had 35 percent lower risk of developing colon cancer," and some Chinese studies found a significant correlation between lowered stomach cancer risk and garlic (and Tic-Tac) consumption. This smelly apotropaic is a potent antioxidant and has notable anti-cancer properties.

Finally, ginger. My mother uses garlic and ginger to season fish. There's a lot of ginger in my life. No wonder I never get sick.

Ginger is good for stomachaches, nausea and vomiting, and many Chinese studies indicate it may prevent colds and the flu by boosting the immune system. It is a gastrointestinal antispasmodic, calming the muscles of the digestive tract and preventing indigestion and tummy aches.

Ginger was first baked into bread (forerunner of gingerbread) to make it a sweet stomach settler. In the early American colonies it was added to beer (forerunner of ginger ale) to be a soothing digestive aid.

Ah, the medical wonders of my kitchen. And I haven't even explained the benefits of rose water or red pepper. I also neglected to indicate proper dosages, but it's important to remember that herbs can be dangerous when taken in conjunction with other medications or without consulting a doctor.

While most of the above herbs are mild, too much of any good thing can cause problems. Eat carefully, be sure to remember that some herbal remedies are topical and eat that Cinnamon Toast Crunch.

all of the soups before ordering.

I highly recommend the Sweet Potato Soup, which has a delicious taste with a subtle hint of curry. The pecan flavors saved the soup from being too rich or sweet. I wasn't as impressed with the Clam Chowder, which wasn't nearly creamy enough.

Soup's On also offers homemade chicken pot pies and tuna



COURTESY OF WWW.ACESHOWBIZ.COM  
John Legend is one of many celebrities who have supported fashion with a heart.

# Earth-friendly fashion: the next step toward progress

Recall a time when the economy didn't suck and search under the category of fashion. Before this whole election/economy craze, the fashion world was actually going through a good phase. Trends were returning to classic, tasteful clothing and much of the effort was focused on presenting the world fashion with a purpose.

Remember back when GAP came out with its (PRODUCT)RED campaign? Well, that was actually started by Bono (I know, him again). Companies like Converse and Emporio Armani, as well as GAP, participated in the campaign in what I consider the first evidence of fashion with a purpose this decade.

And the trend caught on quick; you can still see

people walking around with Desi(red) printed on their T-shirts. Part of those profits went to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

Then a group of smart and very thoughtful people decided to get creative. These designers pondered how they could reduce their carbon footprint, and the world of sustainable fashion was born. The goal was to produce clothing with the thought of its life span and its impact on the earth in mind.

Designers accomplished these things by minimizing the use of chemicals (and therefore minimizing the hazard to the environment). This also meant using fewer synthetic materials like nylon and polyester, both made from polluting chemicals. And of course there are all those thousands of dyes that manufacturers use, some of which cause cancer and toxicity from overexposure.

So cutting all of these out of the production process, designers got things like organic cotton, which is grown without pesticides and insecticides. The minimized use of these chemicals also harms fewer people who harvest the raw materials. A couple years ago Levi's released a new Eco line of denim. Fashionable and earth-friendly, the jeans were made from 100 percent organic cotton.

Fashion also saw the world of linen, organic wool and natural dyes come into play. Fewer pollutants and chemicals go into making your T-shirt and everybody wins.

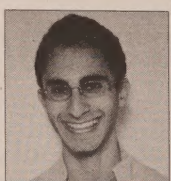
In Africa, designers Ali Hew-

sandwiches daily. The salads — Caesar with parmesan and croutons and arugula with apples, almonds and cheddar — both looked appealing. Even so, I don't think I could order anything but soup here. The soups are just too good to pass up.

For those with a sweet tooth, Soup's On also offers dessert. I wasn't enthralled by the chocolate chip cookie, which skimped on the chocolate and was too thin and crunchy for my taste. The chocolate frosting on the cupcake I tried next was first class, but I found the cupcake overall to be a little dry.

So maybe desserts aren't Soup's On's specialty, which is fine, because it more than makes up for it with soups.

Though clocked at 15 minutes, the walk to Soup's On is more than worth it. My bowl of soup was an excellent value at \$6.50. Nearly every soup contains the perfect amount of ingredients and flavors that would seem too rich, like crab, but never are. At Soup's On, Cynthia's soups have an innovative, gourmet flair that is difficult to match elsewhere.



Siavash Raigani  
Hop Couture

son, Rogan Gregory and Bono (he's everywhere) started EDUN Apparel Ltd. as a socially conscious clothing company meant to bring jobs and increase trade in the region. The designers carry influences from nature and their T-shirts are made from pure organic cotton in a handful of sub-Saharan countries.

Closer to home, a student at a local New Jersey public high school started The Peace Project, a small initiative proposed to increase awareness among high school students about the effects of war on global health, education and poverty. Founder Mohammad Modarres is a sophomore public health and anthropology major at Hopkins.

After creating the organization, Modarres realized that he needed a symbol that would be recognized around the world. A political cartoonist with work published in the *New York Times* and *Newsweek*, Modarres thought the symbol "should be made into a product that will help toward the cause of providing humanitarian effort to developing communities around the world."

From there the Peace Project T-shirt was born, and it has now been sold across the country and in many parts of the world. The non-profit charity used the sale of its T-shirts to raise money for different causes such as funding open-heart surgery for children in Venezuela and building a school in Baghdad.

"We live in a finite world. That shouldn't be forgotten, so if you're going to buy something, consider what's put into it," Modarres said. He also admonished companies like GAP who only give a small portion of profits to charity, whereas The Peace Project T-shirt gives 100 percent.

It's easy to see that fashion is everywhere around you, whether it's on the streets, in your closet, on your bed or spewed all over your floor. In an increasingly chaotic world like ours, it's important to step back and think about our decisions. Being a socially-conscious consumer doesn't translate into being a poorly-dressed one. Next time you're in the mall, think about where the clothing you are buying came from and make a choice that benefits everyone.



THE JOHNS HOPKINS  
**NEWS-LETTER**  
PUBLISHED SINCE 1896 BY THE STUDENTS OF THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

## EDITORIALS

# Our President-elect

This week, the University announced the election of Ronald Daniels as the 14th president of Hopkins. Daniels, who is currently the provost of the University of Pennsylvania, will take office on March 2. President Brody has been an effective and visionary leader of Hopkins and he will be a tough act to follow. Still, we are confident that Daniels will lead the University to an even higher level of excellence. His background in management and his extensive experience in higher education will serve him well as he advocates on the University's behalf.

At Penn, Daniels embarked on an ambitious initiative to make Penn a global leader in teaching and research, as well as an agent of social, economic and civic progress. The program encompassed a prodigious amount of fundraising as well as the implementation of several groundbreaking changes at Penn in a relatively short period of time.

One of the hallmarks of the program has been increasing access to higher education — a goal that Daniels said he intends to pursue at Hopkins. In just the past four years, Penn has significantly expanded undergraduate financial aid and has enhanced the graduate student experience by increasing graduate student stipends and increasing support for students with dependents. He introduced a new financial aid program for undergraduates that eliminates loans for students with financial need. We hope that Daniels will work to bring similar financial innovations to Hopkins when he becomes president.

Daniels has also been a fervent advocate for interdisciplinary education and collaborative learning for Penn undergraduates. Working with the leaders of Penn's 12 divisions, he launched university-wide research initiatives in public health and medicine and recruited renowned, interdisciplinary scholars. We urge Daniels to foster the same spirit at Hopkins and to increase collaboration between University divisions.

Although Daniels lacks a background in science, he has shown a deep understanding of the challenges that are facing academic health centers and medical research communities. He brings a unique perspective and style of leadership to the Hopkins presidency. His affable and enthusiastic personality combined with his taste for scholarship will likely make him a visible part of the University community. We hope that Daniels will engage with students, respond to their concerns and improve the undergraduate experience at Hopkins.

## An opportunity to fill

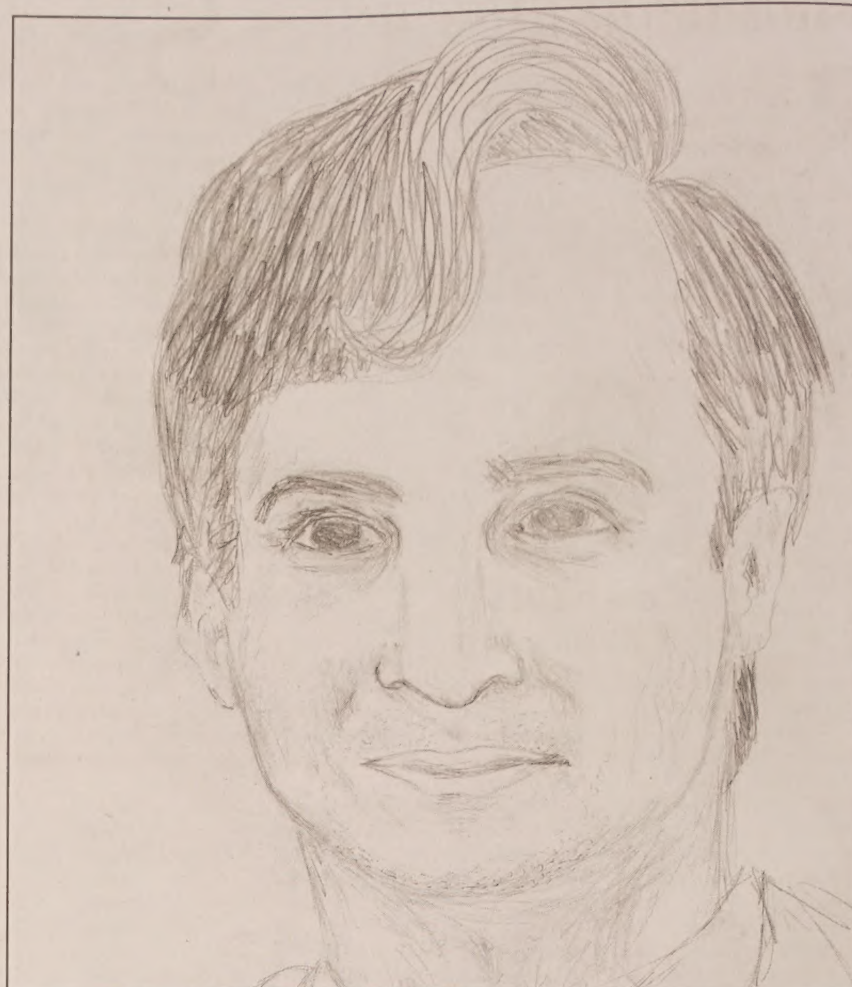
The vacant lot on St. Paul Street between 32nd and 33rd Streets has been in its current state for over two years. The owner of the lot, Struever Bros. Eccles & Rouse, lacks the funding to turn their plans for a mixed apartment-retail space into a reality. While we are sympathetic to the effects of the economic downturn, it is important to the community that the lot not remain in such an unsightly state.

The lot is a blight on a neighborhood that has largely succeeded in its efforts towards revitalization. Local businesses have most likely been hurt not only by the lack of apartments but also by the sheer unsightliness of the lot. The lot is a significant bump in the road to Charles Village's prosperity.

We believe that Struever Bros. should explore options to beautify the lot. They have made it clear that they are only doing just enough to get the lot up to City codes. Struever Bros. should explore their short-term options for the space, such as the possibility of a park. Grassing over the land, putting down some benches and planting a few trees would be a cost-effective way to beautify the space until a long-term solution is found. If the city requires a permit to move forward with such a plan, Struever Bros. should apply and the City should enthusiastically embrace such a plan. Hopkins, acting as a concerned neighbor, should encourage such actions.

As a member of this community, Struever Bros. would be irresponsible to leave the lot alone for much longer. Hopkins, Charles Village residents and business owners alike would benefit from a relatively small action on the part of Struever Bros. While Struever Bros. are fulfilling their legal obligations, any extra steps taken would be an admirable move. We hope that it will not remain a drawback to the social and economic prosperity Charles Village.

AnneFaber



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The Johns Hopkins News-Letter welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should not exceed 250 words. Letters must be delivered to the Gatehouse by Tuesday at 7 p.m. or e-mailed to [opinions@jhnews-letter.com](mailto:opinions@jhnews-letter.com) for inclusion in that Thursday's issue. All letters received become property of the News-Letter and cannot be returned. The News-Letter reserves the right to edit for space, grammar and clarity. Letters must include the name, address and telephone number of the author. Only one author's name may be included. Groups, teams and other organizations may not submit letters, only individuals. The News-Letter reserves the right to limit the number of letters printed.

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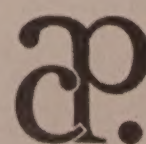
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# Trust the market, not the messiah

By RAVI GUPTA

I am a great admirer of President-elect Barack Obama. He ran an intelligent campaign with elegance and equanimity. His historic victory marks an important milestone in our nation's history. He has renewed my conviction that the future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams. Intriguing and inspiring to many Americans, Obama will take office in January and will inherit from his successor two wars, a damaged international reputation and an economy on the brink of recession. It is my hope that Democratic majorities in Congress will not tempt Obama into becoming an ideological left-wing president. In approaching the economic crisis in particular, Obama must retain the centrist image he cultivated in his campaign rather than mount an attack on economic liberty and capitalism. However, Obama's recent proposal to extend federal aid to the automotive industry represents a troubling new direction.

Obama and Congressional Democrats recently asked President Bush to extend the \$700 billion bailout fund to the automotive giant General Motors, which may not survive the year. However, a bailout for an industry in which our nation no longer has a comparative advantage would hurt our productive efficiency. Rather than wasting public funds in a failing industry, the government should invest in safety nets for the unemployed. While free trade does result in the failure of certain industries and the loss of jobs, those industries in a country that have a comparative advantage flourish and create new jobs. Ultimately, the consumer comes out as the winner and is able to purchase more affordable and reliable goods.

For many people, deregulation has become the prime suspect in the crime of the economic crash. Since the fall in 2008, governments across the world have been forced to step in to rescue banking systems and the markets. Financial firms have been forced to accept rescue and part-ownership by the state. In addition to partial nationalization, the price of this bailout will likely be stricter regulation of the financial industry. Obama has argued that increased government deregulation underlies the current credit crunch. However, the idea that markets have never been unregulated is a myth — just ask any organization that has ever had to deal with the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC).

Finance requires regulation — the financial sector has always been prone to crashes and bubbles. However, the failure of the financial industry cannot be blamed on deregulation alone. The mortgage market is, in fact, one of the most regulated financial sectors: controlled by two government-run agencies — Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac — and guided by congressional schemes to increase homeownership. Instead, the economic crisis has most likely stemmed from a loose monetary policy pursued by the Federal Reserve — which ignored the housing bubble and kept short term interests rates too low for too long.

Still, many are saying that capitalism and laissez-faire are finished. Signs point to a larger role for the state in the private sector. This direction, however, would be highly detrimental to society. Capitalism has benefited billions of people; regions of the world in which it is absent have suffered. The lowering of barriers to private entrepreneurship has given wealth and freedom to hundreds of millions of people who were stuck in poverty. Thus, the current crisis should instead be viewed as an opportunity to learn how to better manage capitalism, not to end it.

The prevention of banking crises by intervening with public capital to keep credit flowing is a paradoxical but pragmatic part of capitalism. Confidence and credit are needed to stave off recession and prevent a depression. However, a government bailout creates a large moral hazard — it represents a highly visible safety net, which encourages risky behavior and politicizes lending.

History has shown that the market always corrects itself. Liberalization and deregulation have given voters what they need most, particularly cheap loans. These loans drive financial innovation. Bankers and traders have thus always been one step ahead of regulators. Liberalization has contributed to growth by making it easier for families and businesses to obtain credit. And while it is certainly not the only reason behind the increased standards of living across the world, liberalization has been more beneficial than harmful. A more regulated world would be much less benign.

*Ravi Gupta is a senior public health studies and biology major from Philadelphia, Penn. He is the News-Letter opinions editor.*

# OPINIONS

Jackie Huang

## Following your passions

It's the quintessential Hopkins question: "Are you pre-med?" Chances are, if you're fresh into your first year and still anxious to endure the academic workout that is Hopkins, you're pretty likely to say yes. Hopkins isn't that great of a pre-med school, but we've got Hopkins Medical close by — and that's good enough! Good enough to inspire me, and undoubtedly many others, to pick Hopkins for four years of pre-med angst, anyway.

Of course, that was back when *Grey's Anatomy* hadn't jumped the shark, when putting down the deposit for my prom limo was my main priority and when I couldn't wait to get away from the people I'd spent my high school years with. I arrived at Hopkins ready for my third consecutive year of biology and with an intent to major in it as well, thinking I'd be getting on Dean's List, no sweat.

It took me a semester and a half to realize just how much I hated science. Yet, I continued with two summer sessions of Orgo and a research stint at the med campus. Four notebooks, several overheated shuttle trips and too many mechanism-filled dreams later, I finally decided: The pre-med route wasn't for me.

It's hard to say what set the wheels

*Jackie Huang is a sophomore psychology major from San Jose, Calif.*

in motion, but the more I thought about taking classes I actually enjoyed, without the stress of having a 3.7 GPA and extracurriculars up to my neck, the more I realized how much more I could enjoy my time at Hopkins.

College, after all, is supposed to be where you actually learn because you want to. I always thought of college as where you "figure yourself out," learn what you want to do — and the fact that you're supposed to know by freshman year that you want to spend your life in medicine is more than a little ridiculous. Being a pre-med is a huge commitment academically, after all!

Some people are meant to become doctors. They are passionate about it, enjoy the medical work they do and don't mind 10 more years of schooling to get where they want to be. But then there's the rest of us. Is it worth it to put in so much time, to sacrifice everything else, to work toward a goal that we might not even like later? So many times this summer I heard, "Don't be pre-med if you don't absolutely love it." And I came to realize (not a moment too soon!) that I didn't.

My pre-med friend summed it up quite nicely: "Being pre-med at Hopkins is just a way to weed people out." Being a medical student, and later being a doctor, is not for everyone. (Exhibit A: me). Just like any relationship, it takes a lot of work and dedication; if it's not right, then it won't work. The more quickly you end it, the more



ANNE FABER/GRAPHICS EDITOR

quickly you can move on. Likewise, the more quickly you decide you're not pre-med, the less time you've wasted on those courses and the more time you can devote to courses in a new major, if you so choose.

I'm not advocating withdrawing from your Orgo class and transferring to MICA, but a career in medicine is a huge thing to think about — and the implications of such a life can be grossly overlooked.

In the short time I've spent at Hopkins, I've known a number of people who have left the pre-med track. Contrary to popular (parental) belief, it's

not the worst thing in the world to give up being pre-med; rather, it's perfectly OK to admit. After all, it can only help.

Things change. After season two, I stopped buying "Grey's" boxed sets. My prom limo was cramped and admittedly more than a little steeply priced. And now, the friends I couldn't wait to leave in high school are the people I can't wait to visit.

I'm no longer a pre-med, and I think it was the best decision I've made in a long time — and though I'm not sure where I'll end up, I know that it was right for me.

Neil Albstein

## A misunderstood mandate

Barack Obama has now been President-Elect for a full week. He quickly named a Chief of Staff and has since kept the nation wondering about the breed of the future First Pooch. In the meantime, the Democrats are readying themselves for their brave new world of Congressional domination. Why shouldn't they? Obama and the Democrats have been given a strong mandate from the people, haven't they? Haven't the people made it clear they are ready to move on from the strong conservative movement that has basically ruled this country for over 20 years? The answer is no.

All that is required to empower the Democrats to redefine American policy is the majority of seats in Congress coupled with a liberal Democratic president. They have that. The people have sent a clear message that they are displeased with the Republican-dominated government headed by George W. Bush. However, this does not mean that America woke up on the morning of Nov. 4 a far more liberal nation than

*Neil Albstein is a junior political science major from New York, N.Y.*

it was four years ago when it reelected the same man that is receiving the lions' share of the blame for the Republicans' general failure in this election. What America demonstrated on Election Day was a rejection of George W. Bush and the Republican Party he led.

Bush's Republicans spent billions of dollars the conservatives didn't want spent on programs liberals didn't want money spent on. Bush's Republican Party was riddled with scandals that were unacceptable to all Americans, liberal or conservative. War Hawks and Peaceniks alike agree that the Iraq War has been horribly mishandled, regardless of their views on whether we should be in Iraq at all. Americans are ready for a change, and Obama's campaign understood and capitalized on this desire.

Now the Democrats are faced with a choice. It is up to them to interpret and act on whatever mandate they have been given. They can say that the mandate for change means that Americans are ready for an era of liberal policies. They can become drunk with power, gorging themselves on pork and corruption. Or they can attempt to understand the nature of the mandate they have been given and govern moderately and honestly.

Americans' views have likely not changed much. The fiscal conservatives who have greatly contributed to keeping Bush and the Republicans in office recently turned on Bush because of their fiscal conservatism. Bush's Republicans lost sight of this part of their base, choosing instead to focus on the social conservative base, who have no problem with governmental spending, as long as it goes to such programs as "Faith Based Initiatives" as opposed to, say, healthcare for the poor. Fiscal conservatives also often oppose costly foreign wars, leading to further conflict with the Bush administration. Many of these voters turned on the Republicans for this reason and voted for Democrats, because they felt that their money, if it had to be spent, should be spent differently. These voters will quickly turn on the Democrats if government spending continues to rise.

The war, too, caused many to jump to the Democrats. The Iraq War was supposed to have been short and easy. It has been neither, and the people are frustrated. But this does not mean that the people's dedication to national security has weakened, and if the Democrats forget this, they will lose the support of these

voters.

The economy, of course, was arguably the deciding factor in this election. It became clear to many voters that Republican policies were harming, or at least not helping, the economy. However, if the economy stagnates under the Democratic regime the way it did under Jimmy Carter, those who jumped on the Democratic bandwagon will jump off very quickly.

If so many voters are so weakly tied to Democratic control, the strength of the mandate begins to wane. The Democrats must now try to appease the whole country. Barack Obama acknowledged this on election night. If they succeed, we could be facing an era of Democratic power that rivals or surpasses the dying era of Republican dominance. If they fail, America could quickly revert to Republican control.

The two-party system in this country has created a dynamic that can result in punishment of one party being misunderstood as a mandate for the other party. Such misunderstood mandates will not last. The Democrats now have the opportunity to earn the opportunity they have been given. I am hopeful but far from optimistic.

Saumya Gurbani

## Concentration of power

On Nov. 4, the United States set out on course to elect Barack Obama as President. Bush's successor in the White House. For the first time since the turn of the millennium, we have a Democrat in the pilot seat of the American flagship. What is going to be different from last time, based on a partisan stance, is that the Democrats will have control of much of the government: the president, the House of Representatives, the Senate, and potentially the Supreme Court (depending on how many appointments the President will make).

The implications of this uni-partisan government are as vast and diverse as the parties themselves. Some would argue that a single party in power would make government policy making and enforcing much more effective.

Afterall, in the UK Parliamentary system, the model that many democracies use, a single party is in the majority and the Prime Minister or President is from that party as well. The theoretical reasons for the increase in productivity are simple; if a particular bill needs to be passed, the Democrats in their majority will be able to send it through the legislative process, a Democratic president will sign it into law, and a Democratic Supreme Court will tend to not override it. In addition, with the momentum of a new, motivated president riding on a tidal wave of American voters' support, more of the Obama administration's

agenda will be placed into action.

However, historically, even when a single party has had complete dominance of the government, there has not been a significant increase in effectiveness. President Carter had a Democratic Congress to back him up in the 1970s, but his administration was not greatly more productive in passing laws than, say, President Clinton's divided houses.

Contrarily, a uni-partisan dominated government goes against the very ideals set forth by our forefathers. First of all, a single party can never encompass the views of all the Americans; true, it may represent a majority of them, but this still leaves a considerable percentage of Americans whose views cannot be efficiently passed through Congress.

Yes, the voters chose the dominant Democrat leaders, but the Republicans need to have some strength in the government to balance it out. The democratic (relating to the ideal, not the party) nature of our country necessitates multiple viewpoints within the government; with the Democrats in charge of all areas, the checks and balances system is rendered futile.

Regardless of whether one party in charge is better than two, the U.S. does seem to be headed towards a uni-partisan government. What does this mean for the Republican Party? With the loss of the 2008 Presidential campaign as well as the incumbent President Bush,

the Republicans are going to have very little influence within the lawmaking sectors of our government. As a result, the Republican Party is going to have to make changes to their platform; clearly, the McCain platform set forth this past summer was not appealing enough to capture the votes of the American people.

One way the Republican Party can change is to lean more to the left, become more middleground on the political spectrum. They would still be more conservative than the upcoming Obama administration but would be more in-line with what most Americans want. The country as a whole seems to be leaning towards a more liberal-minded government, and so both parties must shift down the political spectrum in order to accurately reflect the views of the voting public.

The Republicans have lost power because they have abandoned their principles of limited government and fiscal responsibility. The big problem for Republicans in this year's election was alienating moderate, independent and libertarian voters to the Democratic candidate. This was not always the case. For years, the Republican party united libertarians and conservatives against the big-government Democratic party. The Republicans need to re-think their strategy for the future.

However, I think it is more likely that, since McCain himself was somewhat more liberal than the average Re-

publican, the Party could become more right-wing. This way, there would still be a strong conservative hold within American politics which could have some effect upon the decisions made within the chambers of Congress. Furthermore, a more conservative Party will maintain the values of the status quo Republican supporters in the hopes that the tide of American politics will once again shift towards the right wing. After all, looking back in history, there have always been two parties with different ideals.

Whenever one party becomes the sole dominant party, such as when the Jacksonian Democratic Party took control in the 1800s, another party will always form out of the minority factions; in the case of the Jacksonians, the Whigs came into being. So more than likely, the Republican party will maintain its conservative platform for its constituents, and when the tide of politics shifts again in upcoming elections, the Republicans may regain some control.

But for the next few years, America is certainly going to be running at full speed with a Democratic captain at its bow and a Democratic Congress dominating its engine. Time will tell what the fate of the party system will be, but for now, the United States will be controlled by the Democrats.

*Saumya Gurbani is a freshman chemical engineering major from Baroda, India.*



a taste of

*Northern Italy*

Roasted Eggplant, Salami, Proscuitto, Balsamic Pickled Red Onions, Grilled Vegetables, Olives, Cheeses

Rosemary Marinated Chicken, Crispy Fried Calamari and Fries

Pappardelle pasta with a Roasted Garlic Cream Sauce

Whipped Potatoes, Creamy Polenta with Gorgonzola, Roasted Winter Vegetables, Spaghetti

Roasted Prime Rib with Garlic Jus

Roasted Garlic and Cauliflower Soup  
Escarole and Bean Soup  
Tomato and Peasant Bread Soup

Cannellini Salad with Tomatoes, Peppers, Onions and Escarole, Panzanella Bread Salad

Wild Mushroom, Roasted Tofu and Pea Risotto

Cannolis, Ricotta and Fruit Semifreddo, Tiramisu, Biscotti

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\$2.00 Up Charge for Dining Dollars**Fresh Food Café****Coffee Grounds**Every Friday Night at 9pm  
Free coffee, donuts, games, and FUN!

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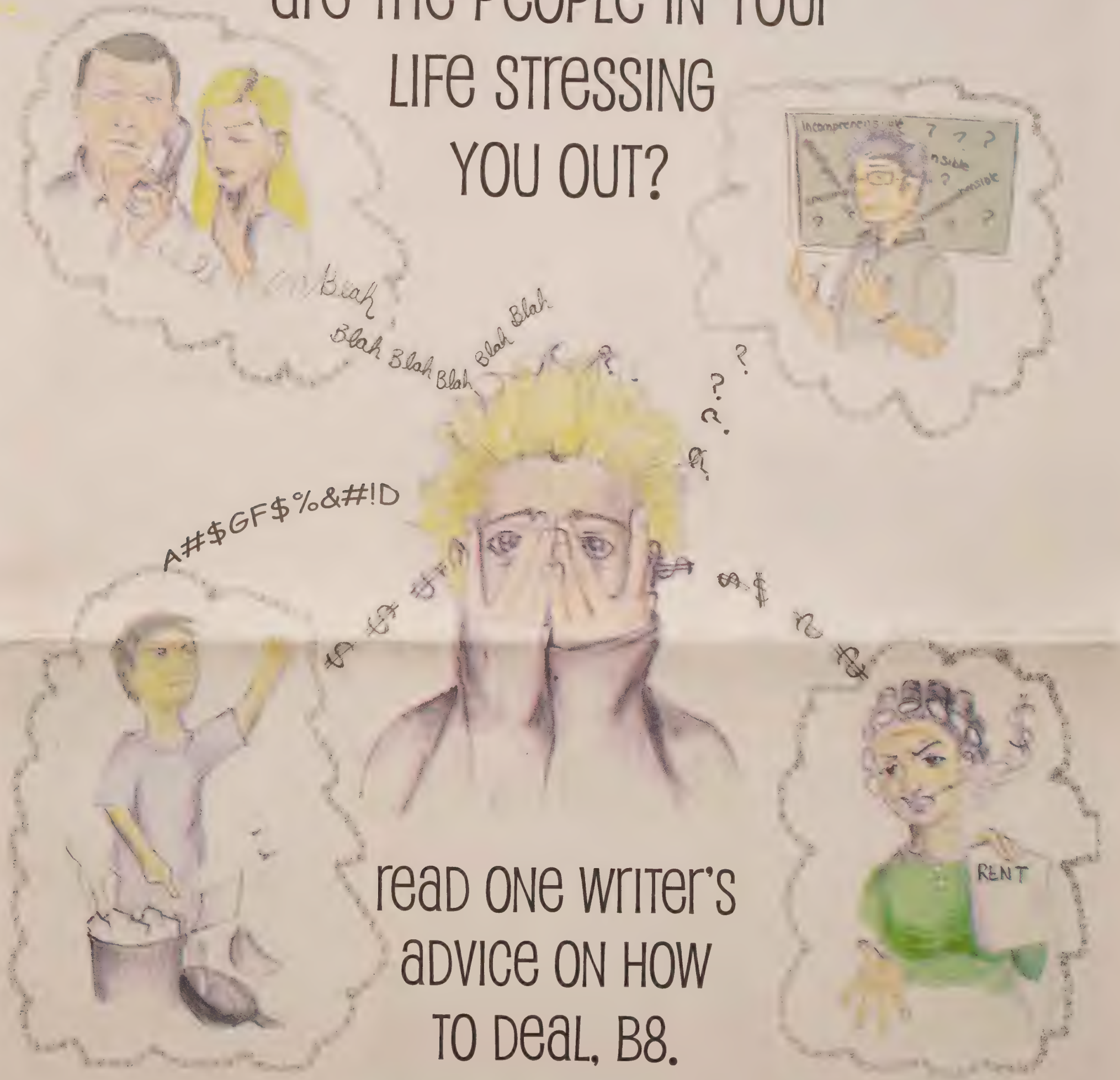
# THE B SECTION

The Johns Hopkins  
News-Letter

Arts & Entertainment • Science & Technology • Your News-Letter • Cartoons • Calendar • Sports

NOVEMBER 13, 2008

are THE PEOPLE IN YOUR  
LIFE STRESSING  
YOU OUT?



read ONE WRITER'S  
ADVICE ON HOW  
TO DEAL, B8.



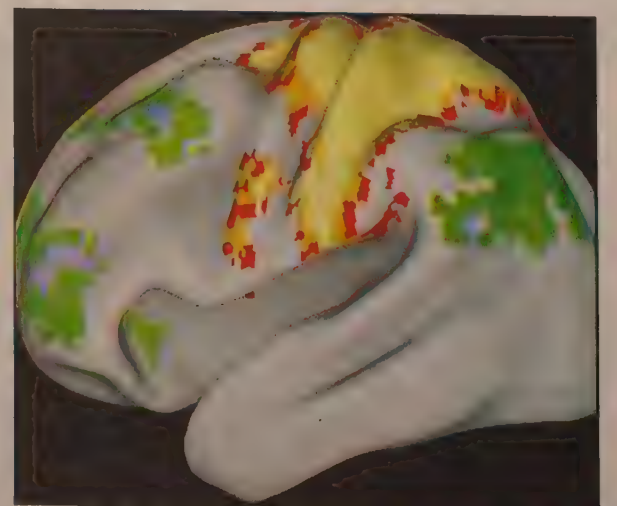
## INSIDE B SECTION

### SCIENCE

- Who calls napping a waste of time? New fMRI pictures have shown that the sleeping brain is just as active as the awake brain. B6.

### ARTS

- Professor John Astin performed Edgar Allen Poe's poem, "The Raven," alongside the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. B3.





# CALENDAR Nov. 13 - Nov. 19

## Flexible Music bends into Baltimore

Looking to expand your musical repertoire? Check out Flexible Music, a New York-based ensemble that weaves jazz, rock and classical music in a network of instruments. The exciting quartet of guitar, saxophone, piano and percussion has established a name among the music community, carving out its own niche by working with composers to commission and premiere new works. An die Musik presents the program that will feature works by Louis Andriessen, Bill Frisell and Orianna Webb.

The event features a pre-concert conversation with the artists, paralleling An die Musik's intimate style of venue. The club is housed in a town house built in the 1920s and is located on 409 N. Charles St. The first floor of the building contains an attractive wine bar which also houses revolving exhibits by local artists.

Even the name of the club, "An die Musik," is a tribute to the universal devotion of every composer. The term, (German for "To Music"), is a

popular song composed by Franz Schubert. The hymn's greatness generally is attributed to its harmonic simplicity and strong message in celebration of the art of music.

Aptly named, Baltimore's An die Musik seeks to celebrate the recent developments of up and coming musicians, wielding nothing but their guitars and a sense of rhythm. Flexible Music fits the bill.

The innovative group plays contemporary music, defies boundaries and combines energy with compositional structure. Their performances have ranged across universities and colleges,



The members of Flexible Music are among New York's most active contemporary performers, having appeared as soloists and chamber musicians both nationally and internationally.

including Julliard School and New York University. Take a night off next Tuesday and attend An die Musik's contemporary series presenting Flexible Music in all their multi-faceted glory.

The doors open at 7 p.m. and the

concert begins at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the door or over the phone. Call (410)-385-2638 or visit <http://www.andiemusiklive.com/> for more information.

—Rachael Tillman

## Campus events

Thursday, Nov. 13

### 4 p.m. Mark: Beauty and Fashion Bash brought to you by Cosmopolitan

Barnes and Noble Johns Hopkins will be hosting an exclusive fashion and beauty event. Amy Pigliacampo, handbag designer and founder of Freddy and Ma, will be a guest speaker. There will be free Cosmo tote bags, free coffee and a special sweepstake. All this, plus a professional photographer from Cosmo will be taking photos. The event will be featured in the March issue of Cosmo. Admission is free. Contact Neil Ferguson at [bookstore@hd.jhu.edu](mailto:bookstore@hd.jhu.edu) for more information.

### 7 p.m. Robert L. Park

University of Maryland physics professor, Robert L. Park, will be discussing and signing copies of his latest book, *Superstition: Belief in the Age of Science*. Admission is free. Contact Neil Ferguson at [bookstore@hd.jhu.edu](mailto:bookstore@hd.jhu.edu) for more information.

### 7 p.m. The Refugee Project: A Community Discussion of the Global Refugee Crisis

A panel discussion cosponsored by the Refugee Youth Project, the African Students Association, Amnesty International and the Black Student Union will feature speakers who have dealt first hand with the refugee crisis. Samuel Akau was one of the thousands of Sudanese children

driven from their homes due to civil war. Hassan H.B. Al-Kazaz, MD, was director general of Al-Rusafa Medical Directorate of the Iraqi Ministry of Health in Baghdad, Iraq, and worked closely with United States forces. The event will be held at the Bunting-Meyerhoff Interfaith Center.

Friday, Nov. 14

### 7 p.m. Chris & Don

Film and media studies program presents a screening of *Chris & Don: a love story*. After the film, there will be a question and answer session with the filmmakers, Guido Santi, Tina Mascara and Don Bachardy. The event will be held at Hodson 110. Visit [http://sites.jhu.edu/film\\_media/events.html](http://sites.jhu.edu/film_media/events.html) for film trailers and reviews.

### 8 p.m. The Sirens (a cappella)

The Sirens, an all-female Hopkins a cappella group, presents their fall concert. The ensemble will be serenading the masses at the Bloomberg Center for Physics and Astronomy in Schaffer Auditorium. Admission is free. Contact [jhusirens@gmail.com](mailto:jhusirens@gmail.com) for more information.

Saturday, Nov. 15

### 3 p.m. Richard Egarr

The Shriver Hall Concert Series presents Richard Egarr, a harpsichordist, renowned for his interpretation of Bach. The musician will perform selections from Bach's "The Well-Tempered Clavier." The Baltimore Museum of Art is host-

ing this free event located in their auditorium. Call (410) 516-7164 for more information.

### 7 p.m. Nritya Mala

Shakti Dance Troupe, a Hopkins student dance company, presents "Nritya Mala," an exhibition of classical Indian dance. All proceeds go towards the Indian child-relief organization C.R.Y. The proud display of Indian culture will be presented in Shriver Hall. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for students with ID. Contact the Shakti Dance Troupe at [shaktidance@jhu.edu](mailto:shaktidance@jhu.edu) or visit <http://www.jhu.edu/shakti/exhibition.html> for more information.

### 8 p.m. A cappella concert, featuring Dean John Bader & the Tone Rangers

Dean John Bader is featured as a member of the Tone Rangers, a professional, all male a cappella group. Concert will include 50 minutes of Tone Rangers songs and two opening acts by Homewood student a cappella groups, the Vocal Chords and the Sirens. The concert will take place in Schaffer Auditorium in Bloomberg. General admission is \$8 and \$3 for students. E-mail Eric Beatty at [ebeatty@jhu.edu](mailto:ebeatty@jhu.edu) for more information.

Tuesday, Nov. 18

### 5 p.m. Presentation by Soledad O'Brien

Soledad O'Brien, anchor and special correspondent for CNN, will speak to the school about her experiences in the wake of disasters

such as Hurricane Katrina and the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami. O'Brien's use of her celebrity has helped draw attention to the human side of these disasters. The event will take place at the Bloomberg School of Public Health on 615 N. Wolfe St. Contact Corinna Howes at [chowes@jhsph.edu](mailto:chowes@jhsph.edu) for more information.

Wednesday, Nov. 19

### 7:30 p.m. William Brody

The MSE Symposium presents William Brody, president of Johns Hopkins University. He will be speaking in Shriver Hall. A reception in the Clipper Room follows the event. Admission is free. Call (201) 602-0307 for more information.

## Local events

Friday, Nov. 14

### 7:30 Bruce Campbell

Hilarious movie star Bruce Campbell comes to Baltimore to promote his new movie *My Name is Bruce*. The film belongs in the same genre as *Shaun of the Dead* and hinges on the horror/comedy theme. Tickets are \$10.50. The film and promotion will be shown at the Harbor East Theatre on 645 President St. Visit <https://tickets.landmarktheatres.com/Landmark.aspx?TheatreID=272> for more information.

### 9 p.m. The Oranges Band

The Oranges Band is rocking out

## MOVIE OPENING

### Synecdoche, New York

Opening at the Charles Theatre

Friday, Nov. 14

(410) 727-FILM or <http://www.thecharles.com> for showtimes



COURTESY OF IMPAWARDS.COM

The film centers on an anguished playwright and a theater director who ambitiously attempt to put on a play by creating a life-size replica of New York inside a warehouse.

at the Ottobar this Friday. Hear tracks from the hometown artists' 2009 release "The Oranges Band are Invisible." The Ottobar is located on 2549 N. Howard St. Tickets are \$10. Visit <http://www.missiontix.com> for ticket information.

### 9 p.m. Reaction

On the second Friday of every month, The Sidebar Tavern located on 218 East Lexington St. hosts its '60s-inspired mod party. Enjoy \$1-Bohs, \$3-Smirnoff Ice, \$3 for all Stoli, \$3 for all Import Bottles, \$2-PBR and Coors Lite Pints. The tavern is also featuring local DJs Matt Walter and Amanda Otto, as well as live bands. Admission is free. Visit <http://www.sidebartavern.com/shows.html> for more information.

### 9 p.m. Sonic Social in the Basement

Bedrock hosts this DJ throwdown every Friday. Come to dance, listen to amateur and established DJs and thrive in the party scene. Admission is \$5. Bedrock is located on 401 W. Baltimore St. Visit <http://www.bedrockbaltimore.com/calendar.shtml> for more information.

Saturday, Nov. 15

### 10 a.m. Holiday Heap

Saint John's United Methodist Church, located on 2640 St. Paul St. hosts a shopping extravaganza. Local vendors and artists come out to sell their distinctive wares that make great holiday gifts and don't fall into the mainstream market. Visit <http://www.charmcitycraftmafia.com/wordpress/> for more information.

### 2 p.m. The Spinto Band In-store Performance

Believe it or not, the Baltimore music scene is alive and well. Catch the Spinto Band, one of the first indie pop bands from Delaware. The six guys are playing at The Sound Garden, located on 1616 Thames St. in Fells Point. Admission is free. Visit <http://www.cdjoint.com/storeinfo.cfm> for more information.

### 7 p.m. Night of the Blackbird

Red Sammy, a local band with an affinity for Southern gothic literature combines with poets for Night of the Blackbird. The event features performances by the band which are often described as an intriguing mix of graveyard country and rock. The event will be held in Baltimore Theatre Project in Mount Vernon on 45 W. Preston St. General admission is \$10 and student admission is \$5. Visit <http://www.theatreproject.org/> for more information.

### 7:30 Euphoria screening

Euphoria, a science-based, self-help art film about the authentic pursuit of happiness, is presented

by Creative Alliance and Senator Theatre. The film begins by asking "Are you happy?" and takes off on a journey through the American landscape — the one that surrounds us and the one inside us. The Senator Theatre is located on 5904 York Rd. Tickets are \$10. Visit <http://www.creativealliance.org/events/eventItem1590.html> for more information.

### 9 p.m. The Who: At Kilburn 1977

The concert film features one of the last public appearances by drummer Keith Moon. Don't miss this exposition on The Who and their music. Tickets are \$8. The Charles Theatre, located on 1711 N. Charles St., is holding the event. Visit [http://www.thecharles.com/schedules/soon\\_set2.html](http://www.thecharles.com/schedules/soon_set2.html) for more information.

Monday, Nov. 17

### 12 p.m. Appetite Stimulus Plan

Pay \$24 for lunch or \$35 for dinner at some of the city's finest dining establishments for one week only. Enjoy a variety of three-course meals all under special fixed prices. Participating restaurants include some ritzy places like the Brasserie Tatin, The Wine Market, Rusty Scupper and the Oceanaire Seafood Room. Visit <http://www.opentable.com/promo.aspx?m=18&ref=4705&pid=329> for more information.

### 6 p.m. Bar Specials

Birches invites you to enjoy a variety of bar specials: Pair \$1-mini burgers with \$1.50-Miller Lites and finish up with \$1-s'mores. The restaurant is located on 641 S. Montford Ave. in Canton. Visit <http://www.birchesrestaurant.com/> for more information.

Tuesday, Nov. 18

### 8:30 Iron and Wine

Samuel Beam, more commonly known as Iron and Wine, has been active in the indie scene for the last five years. The musician known for his hauntingly beautiful acoustic folk songs graces the stage at Rams Head Live! on 20 Market Place. Tickets are \$22 in advance and \$25 at the door. Visit <http://tickets.ramsheadlive.com/> for more information.

### 7 p.m. Blind Melon

Recher Theatre hosts Blind Melon's first full tour since the death of former frontman Shannon Hoon in 1995. Revisit the glory of '90s alternative-rock with new lead vocalist Travis Warren. Tickets are \$18 in advance and \$20 the day of the show. Recher Theatre is located on 512 York Road in Towson. Visit <http://www.rechertheatre.com/upcomingshows.php> for more information.

## Exposure

By John Prendergass





# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Everyman Theatre aims to get you *Filthy Rich*

By **JOHN KERNAN**  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The slightly pretentious letter inversion might have you believe that the Everyman Theatre is much like other “theatres” one comes across. Actors in these theaters prattle on onstage about existence and the futility of hope for a few hours, then during intermission everyone congratulates themselves on being so very high-brow. Meanwhile, you try to conceal the fact that you’re checking the time every four minutes.

Everyman bucks the trend, however. They choose their plays to be genuinely entertaining for an audience that isn’t necessarily up on their Nietzsche. This time around, George F. Walker’s *Filthy Rich* kept the audience in the play right until the ending cheesy cadence.

*Filthy Rich* is the story of washed-up private eye Tyrone M. Power (Bob Rogerson). The exact location is ambiguous, but we gather that the action takes place in Power’s office/bedroom, in a major metropolis during the late 1940s.

Rogerson does the hermitic Power very well, capturing the shoulder-sagging tendencies of the drunk Power, who wants to be left alone, his only contact with the outside world being the increasingly frequent telegrams from his mother informing him of some relative’s death.

However, there were a few times when Rogerson stumbled over his lines. Eleven times, to be exact. Yes, it was opening night, and some of Power’s rants were of a tongue-twisting nature. But the ever-so-brief pauses in the flow of the play were just enough to remind you that you were, in fact, watching a play. It was unfortunate, but we can reasonably



Scott Hamilton Westerman as Henry “The Pig” Duvall and Bob Rogerson as Tyrone M. Power in George Walker’s *Filthy Rich*.

expect that the company has ironed out these kinks by now.

Blunders aside, Power’s omnipresent negativity and constant pontification made for some of the funniest lines of this or any play. Constantly the odd man out, the stark contrast of his philosophical outlook on life and others’ more straightforward approach to business provides more than enough material to keep laughs coming.

Power gets wrapped up in the affairs of the rich Scott sisters (Beth Hylton and Megan Anderson). They appear suddenly and separately in his office, demanding the services of a private eye who no longer is. Seductive, quick and calculating, the sisters are the hinges upon which the plot twists — and many turns it has. We see a range of personalities from both sisters as their

apparent intentions change and change back, and each time we are taken in thanks to the execution of Hylton and Anderson.

Power’s janitor-turned-partner Jamie (Scott Kerns) is the young, rash and quick-talking stereotype of 1940s Chicago. His accent makes one half-expect that he will offer to sell Power “papes.”

While funny with his spot-on mannerisms, Jamie is not a particularly deep character. We do not necessarily blame Kearns, but there is only so much development that can be done with a straightforward character like Jamie.

While mostly monosyllabic, Scott Hamilton Westerman was excellent in his underplayed mobster Henry “The Pig” Duvall. When paired with the bombastic Power, the tension births the best scene of the play.

The actors make full use of the fantastically designed set. There are a few rather wet interactions with the fish tank (one feels for the poor fish involved). Glass is broken, cigarettes are smoked onstage — no element of the story is skipped due to stage limitations.

The primary cue that *Filthy*

*Rich* doesn’t take itself seriously is the music and sound effects. Seconds-long samples punctuate scenes with extra-cheesy effects. Every bad segue from an early-century radio show is used playfully to get the audience ready to laugh at the characters’ plight — and not to get too involved.

Still, the issues presented are real ones. Power has some very tough decisions to make, which he does after plenty of vocalized rumination. Despite the distance established by the lighthearted manner of the play, we feel for Power when he finally does make the tough decision.

Everyman Theater never fails to impress. There is always a unique element to each play that brings us coming back for more. For *Filthy Rich*, it was the dry humor of Rogerson’s Tyrone Power and the whirlwind of twists and turns. This is a play that truly entertains — and is not just for self-congratulatory theatre buffs.

*Filthy Rich* is playing through Dec. 14 at the Everyman Theatre in Station North. Tickets are \$24-\$38 at [everymantheatre.org](http://everymantheatre.org).

## Astin celebrates Poe’s 200th birthday with BSO

By **ALEX VOCKROTH**  
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra joined forces with Hopkins’s John Astin last weekend for an eerie musical recreation of five Edgar Allan Poe poems in honor of the master of horror’s 200th birthday.

The BSO brought internationally renowned conductor and composer Leonard Slatkin to lead the orchestra in performing his inventive *The Raven*, a composition for an orchestra and a narrator that pays homage to five of Poe’s poetic works. Five actors each performed one of the poems, and among them was our very own John Astin, director of the Theatre Arts program at Hopkins.

Slatkin opened the show with the overture from the Rossini opera *La gazza ladra* (*The Thieving Magpie*), an often overlooked piece but one that Rossini experts have ranked next to his famed *William Tell* overture.

The spirited tone of the piece and the prominently featured snare drums fostered a lively atmosphere, rousing the audience for the main event of the evening.

With the crowd warmed up, Slatkin dove into the evening’s

feature piece, a composition of his own. *The Raven* premiered in 1971 after Slatkin, then a conductor with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, endeavored to compose an orchestral work to combine with narration.

He selected five poems from Poe’s expansive catalogue to be read on stage while accompanied by music written with the tones of the poems in mind. In 1971, horror icon Vincent Price performed with the St. Louis Symphony. Now, nearly 40 years later, five actors reprised the role, each giving a dramatic reading of one of the poems.

Slatkin certainly didn’t intend to ease his audience in gently, as the show begins with “The Sleeper,” a perversely romantic tale of a man’s devotion to his deceased beloved. Slatkin’s focus on the bassoon in this piece brings to life Poe’s gruesome descriptions of the still-loved woman decaying in the ground.

The Baltimore Shakespeare Company’s Tony Tsendeas narrated “The Sleeper” with a chilling delivery worthy of the master horror writer. Tsendeas, also a theater teacher at the Baltimore School for the Arts, conveyed the narrator’s mix of madness and devotion with convincing precision.

CONTINUED ON PAGE B4



Leonard Slatkin conducted last weekend’s concert and composed the feature piece.



Drummer Nate Novarro talked to the *News-Letter* about the band’s current tour.

## Cobra Starship tour heads for Sonar despite singer’s cysts

By **SARAH HERSH**  
Staff Writer

I’m on hold, listening to the new T.I. single, waiting in anticipation for Nate Novarro, drummer of Cobra Starship, to answer his phone. After hearing snippets of three different rap songs, it turns out Novarro has yet to pick up, so I’m left to wait a little longer.

When he does answer a couple of minutes later, Novarro keeps the conversation light, referring to his die-hard fans as “the original gangsters” and later chatting about how bummed he was to have his car stolen.

The band, Cobra Starship, started in 2006 with front man Gabe Saporta, supposedly after being saved by a cobra from the future in the Arizona desert. This cobra, which had arrived on a light-up starship, then told Saporta of the world’s inevitable end and of Saporta’s life destiny, “to make sure mankind goes out in style.”

Hence the creation of the light-hearted, infectious pop-punk band, the members of which clearly don’t take themselves too seriously. The band signed to Fall Out Boy bassist Pete Wentz’s record label, Decaydance, after

the success of their first single “Snakes on a Plane,” which appeared on the soundtrack to the movie of the same name.

For the past couple years, Cobra Starship have toured with mostly their own label-mates, including Fall Out Boy, The Academy Is..., Panic! at the Disco and Gym Class Heroes.

Currently, the band is on their SassyBack tour with Forever the Sickest Kids, Hit the Lights and Sing It Loud. This is one of the first times the band has gone out without any of their label-mates.

“All of our friends are doing their own tours, well not all of them, but Gym Class [Heroes] and [The] Academy [Is...] are,” Novarro said. “I think it’s good to break away from just the norm. It wasn’t planned out but it is what it is.”

Despite not currently being on tour with any of their label-mates, the band has retained a strong connection with them. “We ran into Panic [at the Disco] last night randomly and hung out with them all night. We had an awesome time. It was great,” Novarro said, when asked what his favorite memory of the tour has been.

Novarro credits a lot of the

CONTINUED ON PAGE B4

There’s something fantastic in the air when the tattooed, long-haired vocalist of My Children My Bride takes a breath in between guttural roars to “Praise the lord Jesus Christ.” To the average Joe the plumber or Will the Hopkins student, hardcore music and the gospel seem like two concepts least likely ever to marry — the proverbial lion and lamb.

And yet here I was at the Solid State tour on Tuesday night, featuring Christian metal/hardcore bands Oh Sleeper, My Children My Bride, The Showdown, Haste the Day, and of course, the almighty Norma Jean — and by God they were mighty. Christian undertones have done nothing to muzzle these bands. The intensity at the concert was protracted and immense. First of all, the intimate atmosphere at Rams Head Live and the fact that the floor wasn’t packed meant that anyone who wanted to could get right next to the stage. Which I did. Furthermore, the sound system was well prepared. The tricky equilibrium between guitars, drums and vocals was just about mastered. This tightened the sound like a blade.

The first opening acts successfully warmed up the crowd for the headliners. Oh Sleeper and My Children My Bride are something like generic metalcore bands in the tradition of Underoath and Killswitch. And though not much can be said of the originality of their studio material, originality has no bearing on a live concert where it is execution and timing that spell the difference between a crowd on fire and a crowd bored out of their minds, with dying eardrums to boot. These two bands laid it out with all they had to the general approval of the crowd (which was holding back, obviously, for the headliner).

Next was the Showdown, which set itself apart as a heavier, and in some ways more traditional, group. The



Christian metalcore band Norma Jean rocked Rams Head Live on Tuesday night with their signature riffs and thudding rhythms.

music, with machine-gun riffs reminiscent of Slayer and a deeper, throatier vocal style, had overall a style of grittiness that defines the band and where they’re from (“the dirty South,” as the lead singer said). No frills same thrills. And perfect execution.

Haste the Day was up next, and the short set was well-executed. The band’s stage presence was energetic, but, as is true of most bands out there, it was just more of the same.

Finally, after about two and a half hours, Norma Jean took the stage. My legs were sore. My ears hurt. But this was the reason I had come all the way to the Inner Harbor on a Tuesday evening.

The stage was completely dark. Four pale fluorescent lights,

standing vertical side by side, flickered on and off to the introductory sound effects. A deep boom, industrial noises, a narrator from some ‘50s zombie movie and a disturbing light show ensued. The fluorescent poles coming on in series seemed to herald the arrival of some huge supernatural force as the members of Norma Jean took the stage. Behind them hung a huge tapestry declaring “The almighty Norma Jean,” complete with

garishly drawn zombie faces.

The set they played was awesome, filled with all of the signature Norma Jean riffs; the thudding chords pounded in my chest. The rhythm held my heart in its grip (only possible because of the sharp sound

quality). The most memorable was also the last song of the night, an encore performance and a throwback to Norma Jean’s first, and my personal favorite, album: *Bless the Martyr, Kiss the Child*. “Memphis will Be Laid to Waste” is even better live.

Between shouts of the chorus “Mediocrity is the killer,” the crowd going wild, the guitarist ascending the stacks of amplifiers and the monolithic rhythm breakdowns, I couldn’t help but be swept up in the fist-pumping, crowd-diving, head-banging atmosphere. And in the end this is what going to these shows is all about: the collective energy, the catharsis, the immediacy and intensity of rocking out. It was after all an amazing concert. There was not a hint of mediocrity.

— Will Chen

**Last Week Live**  
*Norma Jean and The Showdown*



## ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT

# Astin and BSO honor Poe's birth Cobra Starship talks touring troubles

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B4

The orchestra immediately transitioned into the next poem, "The Bells," which, like many Poe works, journeys from a positive, celebratory mood to one of frantic terror. This poem lends itself obviously to musical interpretation, and Slatkin used this factor to its full potential, employing an array of striking percussion instruments for each of the bells Poe describes.

The narrator for this piece was Rosemary Knower, a prolific stage and film actress as well as a company member at Baltimore's Everyman Theatre. Knower's exuberant performance showed impressive commitment to the role, perhaps to an excessive degree. Unlike in dramatic productions, the actors here were functioning more closely as instruments in the orchestra, working together with the violas and flutes to create a cohesive production.

In Knower's case, focusing on the musical aspect of the narration was at times difficult, as her dominating performance overshadowed Slatkin's composition. Her delivery, though, undeniably captured Poe's neurotic paranoia, as he describes the foreboding peals of the iron bells.

After the breathtaking intensity of "The Bells," Slatkin turned the piece around completely with the light, dreamy "Romance," which was narrated by Denise Diggs. An actress and teacher with a career spanning three decades, Diggs delivered "Romance" with passion and warmth to complement Slatkin's harmonious strings section. The mood shifted once again with the introduction of "The Coliseum," in which Slatkin emphasized the bold sounds of the brass section to convey the regal tone of Poe's poem about the glory of ancient Rome. Accomplished theater actor Jon Spelman lent his voice to "The Coliseum." Despite the powerful volume of the brass musicians, Slatkin's composition



COURTESY OF DAVID COLWELL  
Professor Astin performed as the narrator for the BSO's production of *The Raven*.

and Spelman's strong voice allowed for a seamless interplay between narrator and orchestra.

At last, Slatkin led the orchestra into the final selection — the title piece. Astin narrated

**Astin recited "The Raven" with extraordinary passion, perfectly capturing the narrator's terror.**

this piece, which was a fitting pairing given his run as Poe in the one-man stage play *Edgar Allan Poe: Once Upon a Midnight*. Al-

though Astin must have recited "The Raven" innumerable times in the past, his delivery could've fooled anyone into believing it was his first performance.

Known by students to be an engaging storyteller, Astin recited the classic horror poem with extraordinary passion, perfectly capturing the narrator's terror and bringing to life a poem that most regard simply as a reading assignment. Slatkin incorporated solos for each section of the orchestra during "The Raven," forcing the audience to remain

alert and energized.

After rousing applause and an intermission, Slatkin and the orchestra returned to end the show with "Symphony No. 2 in D Major," a mosaic piece from Finnish composer Jean Sibelius. The variety in rhythm, tempo and instrumentation in the movements in this piece made it a fitting choice to pair with Slatkin's similarly diverse main production. The bright, happy mood of Sibelius's Second Symphony made for a perfect conclusion to the evening, leaving the hall echoing cheerfully.

Slatkin and his orchestra put on a show that spanned much of the continuum of human emotion in under two hours. As a conductor, Slatkin, currently the music director of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, shows a remarkable degree of engagement with his orchestra, as was evidenced by the seamless blending of poetry with musical performance.

"Nevermore 2009," a year-long celebration of Edgar Allan Poe's 200th birthday, will commence in the city of Baltimore, where Poe is buried, early next year.

Despite having a lead singer with injured vocal cords, the band comes to Sonar this weekend

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B3

band's success to this signing, and also the associated labels, Fueled by Ramen and Atlantic Records.

The band was able to gain exposure from their connection with Fall Out Boy and even had their record produced by singer Patrick Stump.

"I don't really know where we'd be if we were on a different label. I don't know how things would change. I know we wouldn't be where we are today, like, for a fact. We wouldn't be as popular as we are or have become," Navarro said.

Despite the band's rising fame, there have been hardships along the way, most recently with Saporta's voice.

"He went to the doctor, and they found that he had a cyst on his vocal cords ... They pretty much told him he needs to not do this tour straight up," Navarro explained. "And to get the surgery to get it removed and then [have time to] heal is probably two and a half to three months' worth of stuff. He was just like, 'Well, if I made it this far with it, I guess I can just do a little bit more.'"

Despite trying to play all their shows and avoid disappointing fans, the band did have to cancel two of their shows.

Saporta wrote an apologetic blog entry to fans who would be unable to see the band. "Talking about my vocal problems gives me douche chills, because I feel like one of those annoying divas who's always complaining, but I swear it's a real problem,

and it sucks," he wrote.

The band plans to finish up this tour, which will run until the end of November. Currently, there is an online petition signed by 1,094 fans to have Cobra Starship either drop off or postpone the rest of the tour to avoid permanent damage to Saporta's vocal chords.

"If [Saporta's voice] ever got too bad, I think he would feel it, and then, ultimately, we would have to stop the tour. I don't think that will happen, but I don't know. I can't predict the future," Navarro said.

Old fans can expect to see the show at the same level that they always have despite Saporta's voice.

"We're kind of doing the same things we've always done. He's actually just watching himself much more now, being extremely cautious about yelling and too much talking. During meet-and-greets that we're having every

day, he can't really attend them because he can't talk," Navarro said.

"He's on vocal rest every day until the show. He's taking care of himself big time. But as far as the show goes, it's the same, and nothing is different."

Saporta plans to finally go under the knife once the tour wraps up, and he can use the holidays to convalesce.

First, however, he plans to take a week off in order to rest his voice in preparation for entering the studio to record the vocals for the band's still-untitled full-length release — the band's third album — due out in 2009.

Cobra Starship will be playing at Sonar next Wednesday. For anybody who has been among the "original gangsters" or who is just looking for a band that is all about having a good time, this show should certainly be one to check out.



COURTESY OF FUELED BY RAMEN  
Cobra Starship will complete their current tour before lead singer Gabe Saporta goes in for surgery.

ARTIST

**Dido**

ALBUM

**Safe Trip Home**

LABEL

Arista

RELEASED

Nov. 18, 2008

On her newest album, *Safe Trip Home*, Dido plays it close to home by giving the fans what they want: a unique voice, songs with mixed emotions and enough instrumental harmony to accompany her songs.

Her calm vigor is echoed in her first (and arguably best) song "Don't Believe In Love." Akin to her last hit, "White Flag," "Don't Believe in Love" has a bluesy riff that plays upon her past efforts. It strikes a fine balance between jazz and pop and reflects something that is justly hers, a post-feminism urban independence.

Her voice glides throughout, a bit more built than her earlier efforts, effortlessly charming the listener and setting up her other songs.

In "Quiet Times," an ease of acoustic harmony with an underbelly of strings complements her soft voice. It's a simple song with simple lyrics that, like the first track, is charming but fails to bring out the depth of emotion she goes for. But therein lies the main criticism of Dido's new album: Her songs are good but stop short of great, because they don't go to one extreme or the other but play it safe by striking somewhere in the middle.

Her next two, "Never Want to Say It's Love" and "It Comes and Goes," show few variations on her model. "Never Want to Say It's Love" is a bland version of the first track, and with "It Comes and Goes," the track

trades gravitas for easy listening.

Her tone shifts with "Look No Further," a pleading ballad accompanied by piano. It mollifies her even more and stands out from the other pop songs. The lack of overt instrumentation showcases Dido's vocal talent and clever lyrics. "Us 2 Little Gods," probably the most upbeat of the songs, gets too repetitive with its faux-Bohemian rhythm but changes with "The Day Before the Day" which, like "Look No Further," trades overt instrumentation for vocal melody.

"Northern Skies" nods to Dido's previous works of a pronounced '90s electronic feel.

The listener coasts along until the end of the track.

Despite a handful of standouts, *Safe Trip Home* feels too safe from a veteran of the music industry like Dido. She swaps true emotion

for easy listening, and the songs now border on being just generic.

—Paul Hsiao



## NEW VIBRATIONS

ARTIST

**Bloc Party**

ALBUM

**Intimacy**

LABEL

Atlantic

RELEASED

Oct. 28, 2008

Bloc Party released their third studio album, *Intimacy*, in a variety of formats over the past two months before the actual album hit shelves on Oct. 27.

The band pulled a viral stunt for the debut of the album's first single by replacing their entire Web site with a countdown timer.

At zero, a link appeared to a British radio show that aired "Mercury," the first single and second track. *Intimacy* features some admirable electronic exper-

imentation with rhythmic synthesizer beats and effects. Wary fans should not worry: The old Bloc Party sound prevails on a handful of tracks.

Heavy synthesizer mixing kicks off the album. "Ares," the opening track, starts off great. However, the staccato vocals clash with the harsh use of electronics to make this one of the least palatable tracks. The effects portray the rage and anger of the song but irk the ear. With "Mercury," the band used the mixing board much more effectively, providing an angry but danceable techno beat.

The next song, "Halo," features Bloc Party's famous dance-rock style from older albums. "Biko," a mellow and touching love song, begins with subtle use of each instrument and transitions to a more emphasized techno-like baseline. This is easily the most beautiful track on the album.

The fifth track, "Trojan Horse," seems like it would make for a great single. The song sticks in your head for hours and embrac-

es the tried and true sound of the band. An intense solo and bridge make this a fun song to rock out to. The sixth track, "Signs," is a successful experiment that uses chimes and bells constitute the rhythm and add a cool new sound.

"One Month Off," another song reminiscent of the band's sound, starts off quick and heavy with the synthesizer. Neat little crescendo effects that sound almost like old NES games add a quirky touch to this head-bobber.

"Zephyrus" features chants for the background that builds as the song progresses. Near the end, they sound almost Gregorian, adding an ominous mood to the theme of abandonment. The chorus features one of the most memorable lyrics of the album.

"Talons," the second single and ninth track, showcases impressive vocals from Kele Okereke that carry the rhythm. The final track, "Better Than Heaven," sounds similar to other tracks and ends the album on a mediocre note.

The CD features four bonus tracks that were unavailable on the previously released digital album and are worth the trek to the music store.

Overall, the album proved entertaining and enjoyable. It could be finished easily in one sitting and some tracks will accumulate heavy play counts early on. *Intimacy*, the

theme of the album, is expressed in each song and ties the tracks together well.

The production work done by Jackknife Lee and Paul Epworth was stellar, considering the amount of experimentation in the music.

However, a few songs may seem a bit too electronic-heavy for some fans. Far too few musicians today dare to venture outside their comfort zone. While there are some similar songs, the band's courage and ambition to test out a new direction should be admired and rewarded.

—Jon Torres



ARTIST

**The Postmarks**

ALBUM

**By-the-Numbers**

LABEL

Unfiltered

RELEASED

Nov. 11, 2008

If The Cranberries were from Miami, they might sound a bit like the Postmarks. And if Imogen Heap joined a burgeoning indie band instead of the failed side project Frou Frou, her music would probably resemble this.

The Postmarks are new and

unknown and bursting with potential musical creativity. Their second full-length album, *By-the-Numbers*, is a set of 12 cover songs. The Postmarks treated 2008 like a year-long advent calendar, releasing an mp3 per month. And now they have released every song on one neatly wrapped album.

February's "You Only Live Twice" is a great cover of Nancy Sinatra's James Bond title song. The Postmarks play the well-known opening bars with precision and the song could easily hold its own as a soundtrack to the opening credits of the fifth James Bond film. However, not all the covers are as appealing as this.

The Postmarks' attempt to cover Marley's "Three Little Birds" is admirable but not successful. The appealing Rastafarian anthem is

slowed down a little too much and fans of the dread-locked icon will not be impressed with this new rendition.

Of the 12 songs, two others can be skipped over when listening to the album. This isn't due to a lack of talent on the Postmarks' behalf but is more because of their poor choice of songs. "Slaughter on 10th Avenue" is a purely instrumental piece from Richard Rodgers's ballet. It is not unpleasant to the ears but not exactly worth listening to either.

Additionally, the Postmarks' cover of The Pointer Sisters' "Pinball Number Count" also prompts

the listener to ask what prompted this choice of cover songs. With pinball machine noises backing the repetition of Yenezkeley's

counting from one to 12, the song has an eerie quality to it. The Postmarks' rendition of "Pinball Number Count" belongs in the trailer to a mediocre horror film instead of this indie pop album.

*By-the-Numbers* is a good collection of solid cover songs. The Postmarks' experiment with different genres, covering songs from Bowie to the Ramones, while still maintaining their electro-pop sound. They have toned down the synth on this al-



bum in comparison with their self-titled debut album.

And their more refined musical stylings lend themselves nicely to their covers of Blondie's "11:59" and the Jesus and Mary Chain's "Nine Million Rainy Days." The Postmarks aren't any less of a creative entity because they chose to release an album entirely of cover songs.

In fact, if more bands chose to cover some classic hits instead of writing less-than-remarkable new tunes, there would be a lot less bad music being released.

It's doubtful, however, that the Postmarks are in a musical slump and instead are giving listeners a preview to their next album, which is sure to be packed full of potential indie hits.

—Christina Warner



# THE LITERARY EXPERIENCE

## D'Ambrosio wins fans with incendiary style Kenney absorbs audience with new poetry

By NATALIE BERKMAN  
Staff Writer

At a reading last Thursday, American short-story writer Charles D'Ambrosio incited the audience to peals of laughter with a story about a lunatic screenwriter and a masochist ballerina.

Of course, the premise is funny, but what really made the reading so enjoyable was the tone of D'Ambrosio's writing, his witticisms and the way he read it.

D'Ambrosio was raised in Seattle and attended Oberlin College. Originally, he never considered writing — he just loved to read. However, eventually he realized that he did not need anyone to teach him how to read, so he began to write.

He earned an MFA from the famous Iowa Writers' Workshop, the first creative writing degree program in the United States, which has hosted many great authors including Kurt Vonnegut, Richard Yates and John Cheever. D'Ambrosio has had several short stories published in *The New Yorker* and was a finalist for the PEN/Hemingway and the PEN/Faulkner awards.

Overall, D'Ambrosio is a highly accomplished author with an innate sense for characters and dialogue, and he certainly demonstrated that at his reading.

So far, D'Ambrosio has published two collections of short stories — *The Point* and *The Dead Fish Museum* (and a collection of essays entitled *Orphans*) — and for his reading at Hopkins, he read "Screenwriter" from *The Dead Fish Museum*.

Like many of the stories in

that collection, it was originally featured in *The New Yorker*.

"Screenwriter" tells the story of a patient in a psychiatric ward who falls in love with a ballerina who enjoys setting herself on fire. Set in New York City, it shows D'Ambrosio's ability to capture emotional moments in a way that is neither corny nor cliché. Through his believable dialogue and his unique characters, he reveals that, "Everyone has a diagnosis."

"Screenwriter" was an interesting choice for a reading. It made sense according to D'Ambrosio, who said he prefers to read first-person narratives out loud because they sound than stories written in the third person when they are spoken.

It was told from the point of view of a suicidal screenwriter who initially seems to be an unreliable narrator, telling the reader some of his strange ideas: "I got into trouble when I told my p-doc I couldn't fall asleep, until I'd made myself comfortable by drawing the blankets over my head and imagining I was closing the lid of my coffin."

However, as the narrative continues, this screenwriter becomes a more sympathetic character. He falls in love with a ballerina when he sees her gown go up in flames.

"The ballerina spread her arms and levitated, *sur les pointes*, leaving the patio as her legs, ass and back emerged phoenix-like out of this paper chrysalis, rising up until finally the gown sloughed from her shoulders and sailed away, a tattered black ghost ascending in a column of smoke and ash, and she lowered back down, naked and white, standing there, pretty much unfazed, in first

position."

The story is unusual, the characters are unique and the language is elegant and believable at the same time. There was a lot of dry humor in the story, which mostly stemmed from how the patients in the psychiatric ward acted and what they said.

Even though the thought of a ballerina burning herself at first appears horrifying, the way she asks for matches, has a house full of candles and tells the narrator to burn her, make for a rather amusing plot device.

Charles D'Ambrosio is a writer to watch. With an impressive resume already and a few collections under his belt, he is certainly worth reading.

He made the penultimate Writing Seminars reading of the fall semester an enjoyable one with the unlikely topics of suicidal thoughts and masochism in New York City.

By GREG SGAMMATO  
Staff Writer

Poet Robert Kenney was introduced to a sizable audience in Remsen Hall as a difficult but rewarding poet. His newest work, a collection of poetry titled *The One Strand River*, is a "puzzle," but one that is apparently worth deciphering.

In fact, Mr. Kenney was so glowingly brought before the crowd that one would think the intent was sarcastic. This was certainly not the intention of the Writing Seminars, to introduce their guest so inadvertently comically, but that was unfortunately the outcome. It seemed just too quaint to be serious.

Once Kenney began to speak, however, the rocky start was quickly forgotten. The well-known author is a MacArthur Fellow and a professor at the University of Washington. His first collection of poetry, *The Evolution of the Flightless Bird*, was selected

from over 500 entries to win the 1983 Yale Series of Younger Poets competition. Although initially recognized for accessibility, Kenney's last work, *The Invention of the Zero*, was criticized as being anything but.

The poet himself has voiced his understanding of such negative responses. With this new collection, Kenney proves that he is not only back to form but also that his work is better than ever.

Kenney calls his newest work a "chimera," in that it had "warm blooded sections and reptilian sections." That is, some of the fare contained in *River* is lighthearted and friendly.

For example, a large section of the work is dedicated to poems about love and lust. One poem, titled "No," employs the controlling metaphor of a dugout canoe as a sexual vessel; it has a "frictionless glide" and its passengers are constantly "slapping" insects on their arms. Another, "Grasshopper," is a traditional yet wholly original Indian summer poem.

On the other hand, not all is rainbows and butterflies; much of Mr. Kenney's new book is satirical, cold and sharp. One particularly biting take on flying first class ends with the phrase, "Unless the pilot misspoke himself/it's not about headphones and Coke." Another poem finishes with "Wouldn't it be grand if there weren't too many people in the world/and I was one of them," a very funny and cynical way to cap off a piece of poetry.

These examples highlight a stylistic trait of Kenney: He usually ends his poems with abrupt, short quips that are often satirical or critical and always clever. His pieces of poetry build up until they reach a climax, then end with a phrase. They left the audience either in laughter or puzzle-

ment, but in any case, their usage was effective.

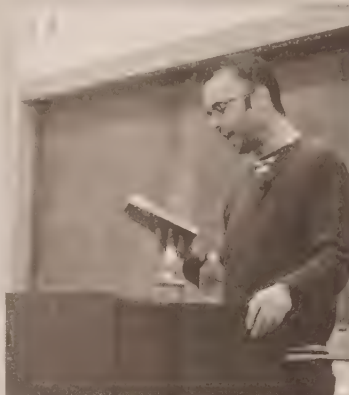
Kenney ends his poems in such a way so as to throw his audience off-guard; when listening to a poem written by this poet, surprise is constant and dullness is rare. Although some members of the crowd seemed taken aback, this was his intention, and he succeeded completely.

Kenney's poetry features a few other traits that separate it from everyday fare. The wordsmith often juxtaposes complicated vocabulary with simple phrases or colloquial speech. This distinct method makes the poet's work catchy, memorable and wholly interesting.

Furthermore, the man's scholarship is very evident; there are various allusions to great literary works; he borrows a line from Robert Burns's "To a Mouse" when he begins a poem with "The best-laid plans of mice and men/often go awry." Multiple references were also made to Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, not to mention the fact that these are only works he chose to read before the audience.

Finally, something should be said of the presentation of these wonderful poems, because it was, after all, a reading by the author. Kenney appeared before his audience in a green tweed blazer, wearing a very academic blue shirt-maroon tie combination. With his glasses perched on his nose, he read his poetry with understated zeal; his passion was evident, and he didn't have to struggle to make it known.

The subtlety with which Kenney read his work attributed to the overall mood: one of suspense, quiet admiration and thoughtful reflection; he proved himself to be both a master of words and of their deliverance.



BRITNI CROCKER/PHOTO EDITOR  
Charles D'Ambrosio had the audience cracking up with his unique sense of humor.



ANGELI BUENO/PHOTO EDITOR  
Poet Richard Kenney was the guest at the semester's last Writing Seminars reading.

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# SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

## Sensory brain centers are active during sleep

By CELESTE LIPKES  
Staff Writer

It is commonly believed that the brain is relatively quiet during sleep. Neuroscientists have thought for years that only a few limited areas of the brain are active, particular to the parts of the brain that are responsible for vision.

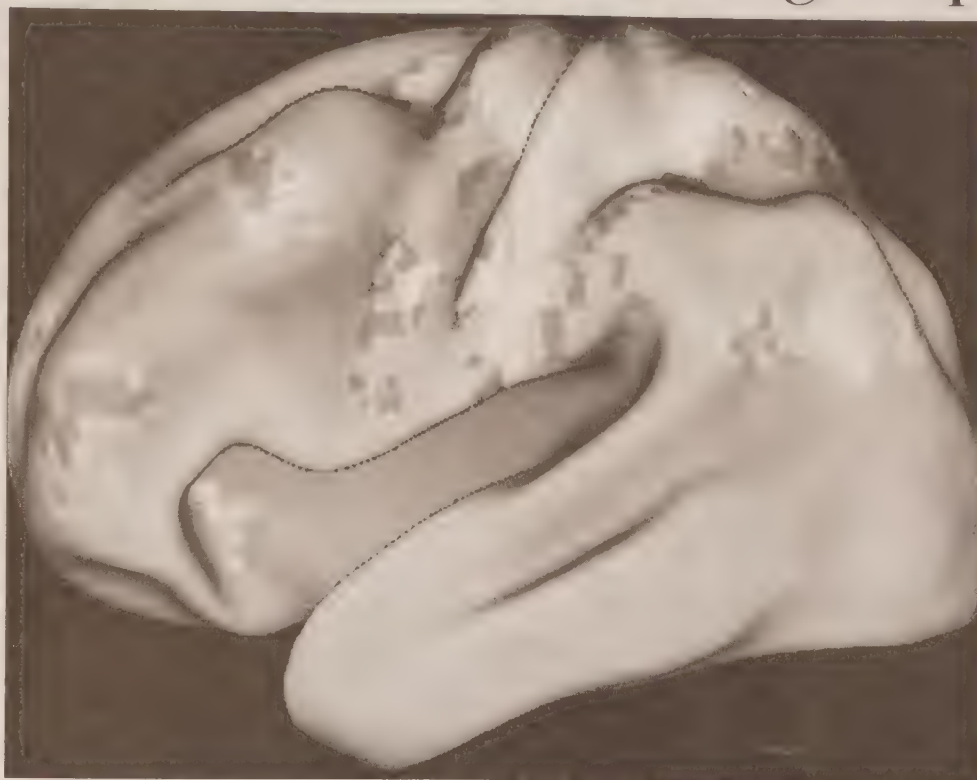
But a team of researchers anchored at Hopkins have found strong evidence that during REM sleep — the deepest sleep state associated with rapid eye movements and dreaming — our brains are active not only in visual areas, but also in areas that control hearing, smell, touch and balance.

It was previously thought that rapid eye movements sleep (REM), presumably a vision-related event, activated only visual areas of the brain. The new evidence, which implicates several sensory systems, suggests that the activity patterns of the sleeping brain resemble those of the brain when it is awake.

"This is the first report to detect brain activity associated with REMs in areas that control our senses other than sight," lead researcher Charles Hong said.

The team's discovery that the sleeping brain functions similarly when awake has wide implications for future studies of the normal and abnormal brain. Hong said that studying brain systems activated during REM will help researchers better understand brain development in infants.

In addition, studies could aid doctors in the early detection of



Neuroscientists are zeroing in on brain areas associated with sleep. Researchers at Wash. Univ. generated this image last month.

psychiatric diseases, including schizophrenia and Alzheimer's disease.

"Our findings may provide insight on how our brains work when we are awake," Hong said.

For two nights in a row, the team used fMRIs to scan 11 participants while they slept. Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) indirectly measures brain activity by recording blood flow.

The participants were monitored by video to determine when the participants fell asleep and when they entered REM sleep, which is often characterized by twitching facial muscles, fingers and toes.

"REM sleep occurs approximately every 90 minutes and lasts about 25 minutes," Hong said. There are a number of benefits to observing the brain during REM sleep. "REMs are task free," Hong

said. "The subject does not need to understand or cooperate with instructions given during typical waking studies that ask subjects to perform specific tasks."

This opens the door for REM research on patients who otherwise would not be able to cooperate with conventional waking studies, such as infants or patients with Alzheimer's disease. REM studies are not only more convenient, Hong explained, but also more revealing. "Only six minutes of fMRI data from a participant in the REM study produced robust results."

After obtaining sufficient data from each patient, the researchers analyzed the brain scans for high blood flow levels in localized areas. They found significant activity in areas associated with language, smell, touch and vision.

Activity was also high in "multisensory convergence zones," where sensory information from different areas of the brain is brought together and reassembled.

"Our findings lend great support to the view that the waking brain functions in a similar way to the dreaming brain," Hong said.

## Vulnerable populations at risk for health care

By JOCELYN WAGMAN  
Staff Writer

In the aftermath of a presidential campaign in which health care was a major issue, we are all acutely aware that our health system has flaws.

The CDC estimates that some 53 million people in the United States were uninsured for some period of time in 2007. That is more than 17 percent of the population.

Something needs to be done, but what? As always, an effective solution has to stem from an accurate perception of the problem. In this case, that perception involves an understanding of vulnerable populations.

Vulnerable populations are groups that are more susceptible than the general population to risk factors that lead to poor health outcomes. Common risk factors include race/ethnicity, socio-economic status, cultural factors and health insurance.

Researchers at the Bloomberg School of Public Health have focused their efforts on understanding the factors that lead to health disparities in our country. In a paper published this month in the *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*, Lei Yu Shi and his colleagues from the Bloomberg School, along with Jenna Tsai from Hungguang University in Taiwan, presented a new model of vulnerability that provides more insight into the causes of the vast differences in health between sectors of our population.

Their General Vulnerability Model builds on previous efforts that incorporated community and personal risks into evaluation of vulnerability. The General Vulnerability Model seeks to assess both overarching risks and specific risks in order to gain a full understanding of levels of vulnerability.

Older models tended to isolate specific risks, therefore disregarding the impact of multiple risk factors, which are presented in this paper as fundamental to an accurate depiction of the overall problem of health disparity.

Why go into so much detail about what makes a particular person or population more vulnerable than another? In under-

standing how individual factors combine to produce levels of vulnerability that can be more than just the sum of their parts, professionals can decide which groups are the neediest and direct energy and funds toward intervention in those specific areas, and therefore, can take the most efficient steps toward decreasing disparities.

Furthermore, researchers can determine which trends apply across the spectrum of vulnerable groups and which vary by race or ethnicity, which can also aid in designing interventions.

Shi and his group found that having multiple risk factors leads to worse health outcomes than having just one risk factor and that certain combinations of risk factors are much more dangerous than others.

In all cases, measures of health worsened with increasing number of risk factors. In a specific case, measuring factors that lead to having unmet health care needs, chances of having unmet needs doubled when going from zero risk factors to one, but tripled when going from one risk factor to two.

Particular pairings of risk factors were far more damaging than other combinations. Only 54 percent of people with vulnerability profiles of having no regular source of care and no insurance were screened for high blood pressure in a year, while 86 percent of people whose vulnerability profile included low income and low education were screened.

Health outcomes can vary drastically by the number of vulnerability factors and between different sets of vulnerability factors. Awareness of this hierarchy in vulnerability could lead to highly focused interventions that are more effective in decreasing overall disparities, which could help the 53 million uninsured.

For example, showing that lack of insurance is a more serious risk factor than others for chances of getting blood pressure screening highlights the issue of insurance as an area of focus for increasing overall equality of health. Identifying which factors are the most important can lead us to better strategies to decrease health disparities.

## Hydrogen sulfide gas has signaling role

Small molecule regulates blood pressure, joins growing class of gases with biological function

By ANN WANG  
Staff Writer

Hydrogen sulfide has a pretty bad reputation. The gas is the culprit for the odor of rotten eggs and the smell of the guy sitting next to you who had Chipotle for dinner. This toxic, flammable product of anaerobic sulfate breakdown can shut down cellular respiration, the cell's energy production mechanism, at high enough concentrations.

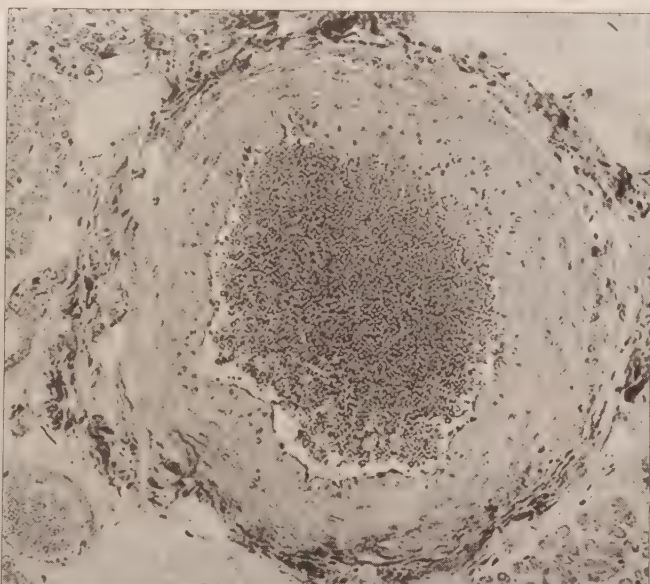
However, scientists at the Hopkins School of Medicine, the University of Saskatchewan and Lakehead University have worked together to uncover a natural biological role for the compound, one that is at work in your body right now.

According to the report published in *Science*, the endothelial cells lining blood vessels in mice actually produce  $H_2S$ , and the gas is necessary to maintain normal blood pressure. The scientists also discovered the enzyme that produces  $H_2S$  in the mice.

The team of researchers, including Solomon Snyder of Hopkins, already suspected from previous research that an enzyme called cystathionine gamma-lyase (CSE) manufactures  $H_2S$  in the body.

Rui Wang of Lakehead University and Lingyun Wu of the University of Saskatchewan, both in Canada, engineered mice with the CSE gene knocked out and tested them against wild type mice with the CSE gene intact. A mouse without CSE should be unable to make any hydrogen sulfide gas.

They found that as the mice aged, those deficient in CSE had



A cross-section of muscles in an artery, which are regulated by hydrogen sulfide gas.

virtually no  $H_2S$  in their bloodstream and had significantly higher blood pressure than wild-type mice. The 20 percent increase in blood pressure observed in these mice is analogous to serious hypertension in an adult human subject.

When the scientists injected the mutant mice with methacholine, a drug that is known to relax blood vessels, there was little change in the blood pressure. When they injected the mutants with  $H_2S$ , however, their blood pressure fell. This suggests that  $H_2S$  plays a unique role in regulating the circulatory system.

"[Previously] there was no direct evidence that endogenous CSE deficient can cause any change in the whole body function . . . and no evidence on how CSE is triggered to produce  $H_2S$  in endothelium," Wang said.

This paper presents several interesting new ideas: first, that CSE is the enzyme responsible for making  $H_2S$  in the body, and second, that  $H_2S$  contributes to relaxing blood vessels.

"There was

no [previous] evidence that  $H_2S$  is normally produced by our bodies — other than intestinal bacteria that generate the  $H_2S$ ," Snyder said. " $H_2S$  is now established as a major regulator of blood vessels and blood pressure."

Hydrogen sulfide joins a small but growing group of gaseous regulatory molecules known as gasotransmitters. Nitric oxide and carbon monoxide are also members of this group.

All three gases have important functions. Nitric oxide has previously been shown to relax blood vessels, but it is suspected that it plays a different role from  $H_2S$ . Carbon monoxide is a neurotransmitter and also relaxes blood vessels.

Snyder was the first scientist to demonstrate that nitric oxide gas can also act as a neurotransmitter between cells in the brain. This pioneering work has directly inspired the search for other small gas molecules that can influence or regulate biological systems.

The scientists hope to expand their discoveries to find new treatments for hypertension, arteriosclerosis and other cardiovascular illnesses. They also discovered that CSE is not the enzyme that makes  $H_2S$  in the brain and are working on finding that enzyme.

Meanwhile, if studying for midterms is stressing you out, maybe you have another justification for a Chipotle break. Go lower your blood pressure.

## New method eases protein production in lab

By TIFFANY NG  
Staff Writer

Recombinant proteins have become one of the biggest industries in biotechnology. These proteins, which are synthesized using genetic techniques, are primarily used in pharmaceuticals, fueling a \$50 to \$60 billion industry.

Therefore, it is important to find a way to produce recombinant proteins quickly and en masse, which is just what Hopkins researchers have done.

"Recombinant proteins are created by taking an organism and putting a gene in that they don't normally express or express at low levels, harvesting that protein, purifying it and using it," said Michael Betenbaugh, a professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at Hopkins and one of the researchers on the study.

This experiment looked at Chinese hamster ovary cells, which have very stable cell lines and are particularly good at producing proteins that will not be rejected by human cells. They are theoretically ideal sources of recombinant proteins. Unfortunately, getting enough of these cells to survive to produce the protein can be a feat in itself.

In order to obtain a recombinant human protein from a mammalian cell, you first have to introduce the protein's DNA into that cell.

"You can use chemical methods to open the cell up to make the membrane leaky, add a bunch of DNA to the environment, and some of the cells will incorporate the DNA into its genome, sometimes permanently," Betenbaugh

said.

Permanent incorporation is good for making large quantities of a specific protein, such as when synthesizing a specific drug. However, this process can take many months and is not cost-effective when you want to look at a wide variety of recombinant proteins.

On the other hand, "Transient gene expression is able to make a significant amount of protein quickly, just for testing purposes," Betenbaugh explained. "It is more popular because of the need for more proteins quickly."

Cells engineered in this way don't express the gene for the protein permanently, but it is much easier to produce many different kinds of proteins in a short amount of time.

However, the methods that are used to insert the DNA into the cell are extremely taxing on the cell, which causes an early-death mechanism, known as apoptosis, to kick in. Apoptosis happens in nearly 80 percent of cells in cell cultures created by transient gene expression.

Normally, apoptosis is a good thing. Cancer is caused by uncontrolled cell growth when cells lose the ability to kill themselves. If something goes wrong in a cell, apoptosis sacrifices that one sickly or malfunctioning cell to protect the rest of the body.

However, this experiment had the opposite goal. If cell death could be prevented, the cells could live a little bit longer and would be able to produce more proteins. The researchers engineered the cells to over-express a gene known as  $Bcl_x_L$ , which prevents apoptosis.

Essentially,  $Bcl_x_L$  acts as a coping mechanism for these stresses, ensuring that the cultures will continue to grow and express the recombinant protein, making them much more efficient.

**Transient gene expression is able to make a significant amount of protein quickly, just for testing purposes.**

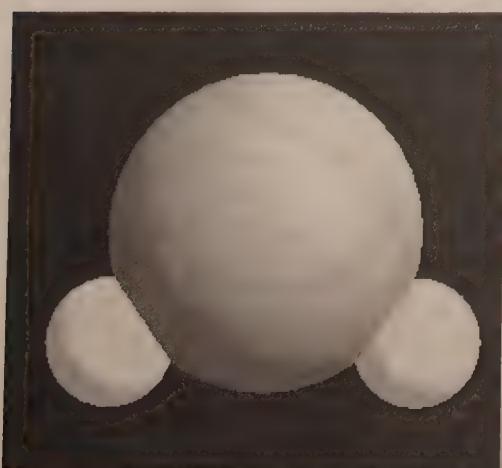
— MICHAEL BETENBAUGH  
ENGINEERING PROFESSOR

Therefore, this technique combines the best of both worlds: A wide variety of proteins can be produced quickly and at a high yield because of the cell's prolonged lifetime.

Potentially, this technique could lower the cost of making proteins, which could in turn be passed down to the consumer.

The addition of anti-apoptosis genes to cells is the crucial piece to boosting recombinant protein production. "We can take these cells and engineer them to make them more efficient for whatever application you're interested in, and for whatever the biotechnology industry wants," Betenbaugh said.

"If you tune or tweak them, we can make them better for a whole range of applications in biotechnology, whether it be for making fuels or therapeutics."



A drawing of the three-atom structure of hydrogen sulfide.



# Vitamin D deficiency is widespread

Recommended dosages of essential vitamin are insufficient for children with cystic fibrosis

By LINDSEY HUTZLER  
Staff Writer

Physicians at Hopkins Children's Center have been studying vitamin D deficiency in juvenile patients with cystic fibrosis, a hereditary disease that affects the exocrine or mucus glands of the intestines, pancreas, lungs and liver.

Cystic fibrosis results in frequent lung infections and decreased secretion of pancreatic enzymes, which in turn leads to difficulty in absorbing fat-soluble vitamins. As such, children with CF are often at risk for malnutrition, as their condition makes it nearly impossible for them to absorb the necessary nutrients.

Deanna Green, a pediatric pulmonologist at Hopkins Children's Center, Peter Mogayzel, director of the Hopkins Children's Cystic Fibrosis Center and colleagues studied 262 children with cystic fibrosis.

They found current recommendations for correcting vitamin D deficiency in children with CF to be too low, leaving them at risk for bone loss and rickets.

Despite being provided with dosages of the vitamin equal to or greater than the current recommendations to treat the defi-

ciency, approximately half of the participants in the study consistently had low bloodstream levels of vitamin D.

The researchers decided to treat adults and children with cystic fibrosis with 50,000 IU (standard unit for drug dosages) of ergocalciferol, a form of vitamin D, every day over the course of four weeks in an attempt to alleviate the deficiency. The deficiency is defined as less than 30 nanograms of vitamin D per cubic millimeter by the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

They found that the recommended 50,000 IU that was given weekly over the span of eight weeks to be effective in a mere 33 percent of patients and a twice-weekly dose to be effective in 26 percent of patients.

In comparison, 43 percent of children with CF who were treated three times a week with the identical dosage showed improvements.

Researchers have just completed an additional study, which found that 50,000 IU daily over the course of 28 days only worked over the short term.

"This higher dose only transiently improves vitamin D levels," Mogayzel said. "Our new approach, which we just instituted in the clinic, is to increase the routine dose of vitamin D for

every patient."

"We are using cholecalciferol (vitamin D3), which some researchers feel is better absorbed than the ergocalciferol (vitamin D2) that we were using to treat vitamin D insufficiency."

An additional roadblock to patients coping with CF is that their level of vitamin D varies according to the time of year. Sunlight is necessary for vitamin D to be synthesized in the skin. When the number of daylight hours decreases and temperatures drop, the majority of the population tends to spend more time indoors.

Thus 83 percent of patients with Cystic Fibrosis had deficient levels of vitamin D during this time of the year, compared to near-optimal levels during the spring and summer months.

Although optimal levels of vitamin D to treat those with CF suffering a deficiency are yet to be found, researchers are in agreement that higher levels will allow patients to survive well into adulthood more often than ever before.

Sufficient levels of the vitamin will help prevent such issues as bone disease and osteoporosis as the population of CF patients is able to survive for longer periods of time.

Lower levels of vitamin D affect even the general population. In August, researchers at Hopkins concluded that having lower levels of the vitamin led to an increased death rate as high as 26 percent, in addition to a greater death rate from heart disease and a higher chance of developing breast cancer or facing depression.

**Our new approach, which we just instituted in the clinic, is to increase the routine dose of vitamin D for every patient.**

— PETER MOGAYZEL,  
PEDIATRICIAN

# Univ. alum: motor protein used in learning

By SAM OHMER  
Staff Writer

Neuroscientists have known for some time that alterations in the communication network of neurons in the brain must occur for learning to happen. That means that somehow neurons have to change the way they communicate and receive signals so that the information you crammed for a test last night can stick in your mind better than what you ate for dinner two weeks ago.

Much research has been done with the goal of trying to elucidate the exact mechanisms by which learning occurs.

One team in particular, led by Michael Ehlers, a Hopkins alumnus as well as a Howard Hughes Medical Institute researcher and neurobiologist at Duke University, has begun to shed a more focused light on this exact mechanism.

Ehlers and his team of researchers have proposed that there are certain proteins within neurons, called myosin Vb, that help bring the building blocks needed to strengthen memory to the synapse for construction and strengthening of the synapse.

In order for learning to occur, synapses must be strengthened. Synapses, as the communication points between different neurons, can be strengthened in a number of ways, but most involve one cell becoming increasingly powerful as a messenger or one cell becoming increasingly good at receiving a message.

Ehlers's team in particular has taken to studying the latter, in which the postsynaptic cell, the one that receives the message, gets better and better at picking up the signal. "One of the main ways that brain circuits are alerted as we learn and remember is by adding new neurotransmitter receptors to synapses, the specialized contact sites between brain cells," Ehlers explained.

With a greater number of receptors, the cell can more easily detect chemicals in the synapse, called neurotransmitters, that

pass the signal along. The question remains, however, as to how neurons increase the number of receptors present.

Neuroscientists believe that one specific mechanism exists in which there is a certain number of receptor molecules in a cell that will be inserted or removed from the cell surface as needed. Furthermore, when the receptors are not in use, they can be stored in intracellular "lockers" until there is a need for them. These intracellular storage spaces are called endosomes.

"One could think of these internal receptor containers as molecular memories waiting to happen and myosin Vb as the motor that brings these memory building blocks to the synapse," Ehlers said.

Thus, within neurons, there are certain numbers of endosomes holding on to their precious cargo until it becomes essential for the cell to respond efficiently to a certain stimuli,

colleagues have been studying. The team proposes that specific protein molecules called myosin Vb grab onto the endosomes and reel them in when they are needed at the cell's surface. Myosin Vb is a protein trucker; it is the "motor" that drives the transport of packages to and fro in the cell. And it just so happens that myosin Vb is activated by calcium, an ion that rushes into the cell when it is stimulated.

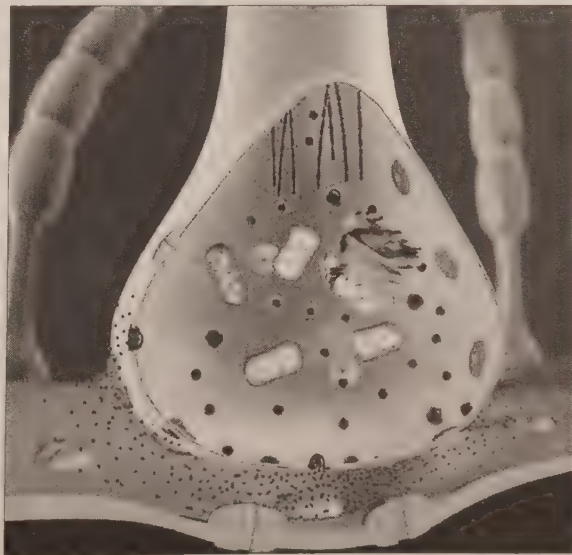
That makes myosin Vb the perfect molecule to play the role of taxi for these endosomes.

Ehlers and colleagues have actually seen this protein in action. They noticed that there are large quantities of myosin Vb in the receptive parts of neurons. When calcium rushes into the cell, the myosin Vb proteins jump to work and latch onto nearby endosomes and begin the process of dragging them to the cell membrane for docking and insertion of the receptors.

The most fascinating part of Ehlers's research, however, is the impact it could have on understanding disorders with abnormal learning patterns, such as Alzheimer's, obsessive compulsive disorder and addiction. "We know that many neuropsychiatric diseases including Alzheimer's disease, autism and addiction involve altered synaptic plasticity. We believe that the myosin Vb motor may be a central player in some of these processes."

In Alzheimer's, it may be the case that this mechanism is disrupted, which adversely affects the learning process. In compulsive disorders and addiction, learning as it occurs through the myosin Vb mechanism may be elevated, so that one type of behavior may become more and more important to an organism because more and more cells are learning and responding strongly to the stimulus over time.

Ehlers offers new hope for the future of treatment for these diseases and others: "By revealing a new molecular mechanism for enhancing neural connections, the myosin Vb mechanism we have described could potentially serve as an entry point to new molecular therapies."



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.ABCAM.COM

A schematic drawing of a synaptic terminal, where learning takes place.

in a certain way. The endosomes rush to the molecular scene of the learning, the synapse, and there the receptor molecules are freed from the endosomes and inserted into the cell's surface, increasing the neuron's ability to respond to certain neurotransmitters to which the receptor responds.

This sequence of events seems pretty obvious, even trivial, but it constitutes one of the most important characteristics of the brain: plasticity, or the ability to change over time in order to meet certain demands and challenges. But one question still remains: How do the endosomes know when to make the drop-off?

This is exactly what Ehlers and

# Artificial protein blocks pain response

By BARBARA HA  
Staff Writer

Researchers in the Department of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine at the Hopkins medical school have created an artificial protein that shows promise in reducing pain associated with inflammation, which is an important and common cause of chronic pain.

The protein, called Tat-PSD-95, is able to disrupt the interactions of two important components of the inflammatory pain pathway in nerve cells. This experiment could serve as a model for future pain therapies.

The group, led by Roger Johns, translated their understanding of a simple biochemical pathway into a possible therapy. NMDA receptors, a protein found in the membranes of neurons, trigger signaling pathways inside these cells when they are activated. NMDA signaling pathways are involved in learning and memory.

"As an anesthesiologist, I have a great deal of interest in understanding the mechanisms of pain. We treat or prevent acute pain everyday in the operating room. Chronic pain is different. There is a learning process that takes place so that once you feel pain once, there is a sensitization such that the pain is intensified the next time you get a painful stimulus or the pain actually persists in the absence of a stimulus," Johns said.

Johns and his colleagues reasoned that blocking the NMDA receptor from activating its associated intracellular signaling cascade might prevent a learned inflammatory response.

"The NMDA channel receptor is involved in memory in the hippocampus of the brain but also in the spinal cord where it plays a role in the plasticity that leads to pain memory. We studied the NMDA receptor in the spinal cord and how it links to other signaling molecules inside the cell to cause these unwanted pain memories."

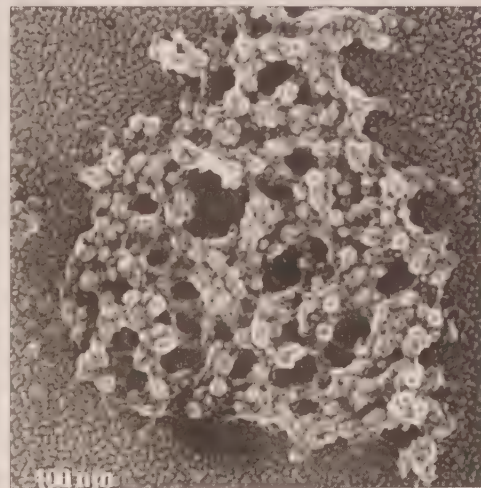
They targeted postsynaptic density protein-95, or PSD-95, a protein that ensures the attachment of NMDA receptors to internal signaling molecules at neuronal synapses, the point of contact between two neurons.

By disrupting these interactions between NMDA receptors and PSD-95, the researchers hoped to see decreased inflammation as well as a reduction in pain-related behavior in mice.

"There is a class of proteins that act as 'molecular scaffolding' proteins that interconnect receptors such as NMDA with other proteins that are necessary for it to exert its actions within the cell and regulate its ability to stay in the cell membrane. We hypothesized that if we could block these scaffolding proteins, we could prevent the NMDA receptor from causing the memory or plasticity in the spinal cord nerves that lead to chronic pain," Johns said.

An artificial protein called Tat-PSD-95 was constructed to specifically target the NMDARs/PSD-95 protein complex and alter its normal behavior in the cell. This newly synthesized peptide was injected into the abdomens of mice in which chronic inflammation had been previously caused by chemical means.

The artificial protein — called a fusion protein because it was engineered to contain parts from two different proteins — was designed by the researchers to solve an experimental dilemma. "The only problem was how to get this piece of the protein, which is pretty large, into the cell. To do this we took advantage of a trick that the HIV retrovirus used to



COURTESY OF HTTP://WWW.NINDS.NIH.GOV

This electron micrograph shows PSD protein locations (circles).

get into cells. It has a small protein sequence called a 'p-TAT domain' that fools cells into taking it inside of the cell. So we took that sequence used by the HIV virus (without the virus) and hooked it up to our MAGUK protein fragment," Johns said.

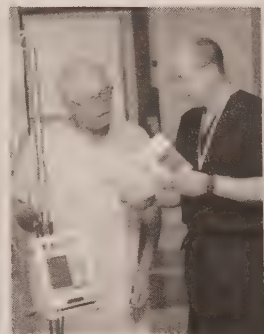
Assays proved that the Tat-PSD-95 peptide was taken up into neurons and successfully blocked the interaction between NMDA receptors and the cell's own PSD-95. Behavioral tests on these mice showed that the treated mice displayed significantly decreased pain-associated symptoms, which suggests this sort of treatment might have future use in the clinic.

These results can be interpreted as support for a new hypothesis: The NMDA receptor-dependent synaptic pathway in the spinal cord might play a significant role in the mechanism of inflammatory pain and its associated behaviors.

"Chronic pain can be a devastating and disabling condition. It affects the lives of millions of people on an ongoing basis. Yet there are currently very limited approaches to effective therapy. We hope to eventually be able to use this approach clinically to prevent or treat human chronic pain," Johns said.



## SUMMER III FOR JUNIOR NURSING STUDENTS



We invite you to explore the Summer III Student Nursing Experience with Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. This program is for junior-year students of a four-year baccalaureate nursing program. The Summer III program is a paid nursing experience that begins in early June and lasts for 10 weeks. This is a supervised nursing program that allows students to work alongside an RN Clinical Coach. This program also provides subsidized housing for students.

For more information, and to view a short video about the Summer III program, please visit our website or contact:

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Rochester, MN 55905  
ph: 800-562-7984  
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**Application Deadline: January 15, 2009**

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# YOUR NEWS-LETTER

*Satisfy your temptations,  
but don't overindulge*

Here's a question for you: How much gummy candy is too much gummy candy? I myself have eaten seven pounds of gummy candy this week. I know this is a bit excessive — the inside of my mouth is corroding from that sour stuff they put on gummy worms and the extra sugar is making me spaz out in short bursts before plunging me into deep withdrawal.

And yet, I can't stop. I find myself back at Char Mar at one, sometimes two, sometimes three in the morning to get my fix, justifying my actions by saying I don't want a pile of dining dollars that I'll wind up spending on Burt's Bees products.

On the bright side, I feel as though this newfound addiction has brought me closer to my idol, Mandy Moore, and her one-time top 10 (number two in Australia) single, *Candy*.

So here I am, hyped up on sour patch kids, blasting the Wade Robson Remix of *Candy*, and I begin to think about health and indulgence and how much indulgence is healthy. Any eight-year-old, much less a sophomore in college, can tell you that downing upwards of 70 sour patch kids isn't good for you, and yet here I am doing it anyway.

The fact is, people do things that are bad for them all the time. It's interesting, because there are so many varying degrees of bad behavior, you can justify almost anything. For instance, my current sugar addiction is nothing compared to the time I went away to boarding school and ate nothing but Jello and Apple Jacks for a month.

Junk food is just one of my weaknesses; my other, though slightly less intriguing, is equally prone to cause obsessive behavior: men.

The Crush: an illusive term that includes anything from feeling butterflies in one's stomach when the object of one's desire enters the room to feeling overwhelming distress when they leave it. Crushes can occur for a plethora of reasons including good looks, wit, charm, confidence and any other trait you think would describe James Tiberius Kirk.

While most crushes are associated with positive things such as daydreaming, there exists a small but pervasive minority which are associated with bad things, such as Anna Nalick.

Yes, there is one aphrodisiac that I have found to be more powerful than any of the others, and this is a certain air of unavailability. Whether it's someone significantly older, an authority figure or simply someone who's just not that into you, there's something about the challenge that makes it so much more appealing.

(Note: This isn't true for everyone, some people see these obstacles as flashing warning signs and immediately turn their attentions elsewhere. And, though

mature, they are no fun).

In a certain sense, going for someone who is unavailable is a safe choice: To a certain extent, you know the likelihood of becoming close to this person in any lasting manner is slim, so in a way you're protecting yourself.

On another hand, you're leaving yourself wide open for rejection, angst and frustration, and while these traits are often associated with people who are cool things, like "complicated" and "screwed up," they really just make you look like Zach Efron in the desert scene in *High School Musical 2*: a.k.a. the love child of Venom and The Lost Backstreet Boy.

It's easy to jump into one of these situations because chances are nothing will come of it;

what's not so easy is finding your way back out if you begin to slip. And you'd be surprised how often it happens. What starts out as innocent flirtation can blossom into obsession faster than you can say "sexual attraction." And yet, this begs the question: Is it possible to have mind-blowing sexual chemistry if there is no struggle involved?

So, let's talk about sex, baby. We all know about a literal orgasm, but the fact is, good sex is rarely achieved without something extra: a mind f-k. A mind f-k is basically what it sounds like: a release of mental tension that adds to the overall pleasure of the experience. Some people can get off with a simple declaration of affection while others need a little more to get the job done. This can range anywhere from witty banter and frustrated sparring to systematically ignoring each other and actual cruelty.

I've heard men speak of how they want to "vanquish" some girl in their physics class, or girls talk about how they "owned" that guy last night. The power struggle is intoxicating, but how far can you go before it actually starts to hurt?

In the end, a balance is crucial. People are terrified that the opposite of these dangerous liaisons is either an Amish-like society in which flashing someone an ankle is considered porn, or worse, feeling trapped in a perfect relationship with a perfect person who will help you breed perfect children and ultimately (from an evolutionary standpoint, of course) await your perfect death.

It is possible to find someone exciting (if you know what I mean) and also know that they have your back.

Granted, it doesn't happen that often, but it's something to aspire to. In the meantime, it's important to take responsibility for your limits and for yourself — the reason your friends complain about you going back to that "douche bag" again and again isn't because they hate him so much, it's because they're sick of having to clean up the mess.

So give everyone a break, but mostly yourself, and say goodbye to the dandy and hello to the candy ... eye candy of course.

*Handle your most difficult relationships with class and style*

Roommates, landlords, professors and parents can all pose problems, but here are some tips to dealing

By SARAH CAPPONI  
Staff Writer

Sad but true fact of life Number One: Not everyone gets along with everyone else. Sad but true fact Number Two? Not many people know how to appropriately deal with those people who frustrate, annoy or irritate them.

Now that most of us have at least one foot in the door that leads us towards the real world of jobs, apartments and time commitments, dealing with people who frustrate the heck out of us becomes a very important skill to master.

As young adults in college, some of the people who are difficult to get along with include parents, professors, roommates and landlords.

Learning how to handle these people with respect — especially in situations where you really just want to shake them for being so irritating — takes a fair amount of time, but it always pays off by earning you respect in return.

Parents are probably the source of the most frustration for college students. Whether they're calling you every day to ask you about everything from your eating habits to your weekend plans or pressuring you about grades, parents seem to effortlessly cause headaches.

They are pros at making you feel inadequate and stupid, and that automatically creates an environment where you are primed for a fight.

The key to dealing with parents is to stay calm through their endless questioning. Only call them when you are in a good mood. Then, listen as they talk to you.

Even if you don't necessarily agree with everything they're saying, parents do have valuable advice to give and truly only want what is best for you. Agree with them during the conversation and tell them that you will think about what they're saying.

Whether or not you choose to follow their advice is totally your prerogative. If the conversation starts to get heated, tell your mom you need to call her back. Set a time limit on your break (an hour or so) and then call back and just ride out the lecture.

If you can handle your parents with patience and calmness, they will be more inclined to view you as an adult capable of analyzing certain situations and then making decisions for yourself.

Your professors are another group of people who require delicate handling. It's easy and sometimes therapeutic to bash them in your dorm room with your friends, but that disrespectful attitude cannot be allowed to translate into real life.

When asking professors questions or going to office hours, always look them in the eye and modulate your tone to one of polite inquiry. Always say please

and thank them for all of the time they gave to help you.

Certain small things, like sending professors e-mails to let them know if you will miss class or asking if you can set up an appointment, go a long way towards fostering an open relationship between your professors and yourself.

Roommate problems cause some of the nastiest conflicts between individuals, and the feuds can last for a long and uncomfortable time.

Again, one of the simplest ways to avoid fighting with the person you live with is to be polite. Start off on a good note by talking about your sleeping and studying habits.

Always check before eating something that is in the refrigerator but isn't yours. Come up with a bathroom schedule. Keep your side of the room neat.

Above all, communicate with each other! If you absolutely hate something your roommate does, politely ask her why she does it and if she wouldn't mind doing it somewhere else.

Since it's always easier to be friends than enemies, try room-

mate bonding as well. Go to dinner together or strike up a conversation while doing your homework. It's much easier to try to stop conflicts before they start by opening up to your roommate and talking about what is troubling you early on.

Landlords are much like professors — they control something important and necessary in your life and they know it. However, disagreeing with your landlord is much harder than disagreeing with your professors — landlords are not involved in logical academia but in cutthroat capitalism.

Start off your relationship positively by being on time with your rent and keeping the apartment clean. Don't hold parties right after you move in — it can cause a very bad first impression.

Use common sense as well. If your landlord has to confront you about a problem, listen respectfully, apologize sincerely and then immediately rectify the problem and don't let it happen again.

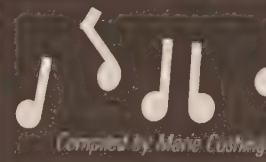
Most, if not all, of human interaction is based on mutual respect between parties. Your relationships with anyone can be positive as long as you remain kind, polite and respectful to the person you are addressing. It is not a difficult skill to acquire, but like all skills, it does require practice.

So please, practice some positive relationships. The world could use more of them.



COURTESY OF HTTP://FUNNYORDIE.COM  
Will Ferrell could have avoided his confrontation with pint-sized Landlord Pearl with a little more respect.

**If you absolutely hate something your roommate does, politely ask her why she does it and if she wouldn't mind doing it somewhere else.**



**YOUR tracks: Songs of the News-Letter**

Putting together a paper for you all to enjoy (or ignore) every week can get stressful for this dedicated staff. But what better way to beat the stress than by rocking out to a favorite song? The production staff presents, for your humble downloading pleasure, each of their favorite tunes to listen to when trying to put together a sexy looking paper.

"Dancing Queen" by ABBA

— Stephen Berger, Science Editor

"Make it Rain" by Fat Joe ft. Lil' Wayne

— Marie Cushing, Layout Editor

"Limbo Rock" by Chubby Checker

— Lilly Newman, Layout and Copy Staff

"Instant Pleasure" by Rufus Wainwright

— Anne Faber, Graphics Editor

"Werewolves of London" by Warren Zevon

— Payal Patnaik, News and Features Editor

"What I'd Say" by Ray Charles

— Liz Schwartzberg, Managing Editor

"Jesus, Etc." by Wilco

— Angeli Bueno, Photography Editor

"Aquaboogie" by Parliament Funkadelic

— Alex Traum, Editor-in-Chief

"I Just Threw Out the Love of My Dreams" by Weezer

— Ravi Gupta, Opinions Editor

"The Great Escape" by Boys Like Girls

— Leah Mainiero, News and Features Editor

"No Rain" by Blind Melon

— Britni Crocker, Photography Editor

"Out of My Head" by Fastball

— Katlyn Torgerson, Editor-in-Chief

"Disturbia" by Rihanna

— Stephanie Delman, News and Features Editor

"Buddy Holly" by Weezer

— Heather Barbakoff, Managing Editor

"Lollipop (Remix)" by Lil' Wayne ft. Kanye West

— Sam Eckstein, News and Features Editor

your Horoscope



**Aries: (March 21 - April 19)**  
Please keep your sordid fantasies to yourself. Telling others may very well result in your expulsion from the human race.



**Taurus: (April 20 - May 20)**  
Secure your place in society this week by acting witty and drinking far beyond your tolerance level. You'll thank me.



**Gemini: (May 21 - June 20)**  
An old wise man once told me that if you love someone, let them go. Do not listen to this man. It will ruin your life.



**Cancer: (June 21 - July 22)**  
Apple computers are far inferior to PCs. Not to mention their negative campaigning is such an obvious faux pas.



**Leo: (July 23 - Aug. 22)**  
For once in your life, take a chance. Start with missing a class. Then blow off a major assignment. Then skip a test, if you're really brave.



**Virgo: (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)**  
"Me?" You may ask. Yes, you. You, Virgo, are single-handedly destroying our country. Please cut it out.



**Libra: (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)**  
To those of you who may question the motives of others, you should. You never know what people may have up their sleeves around here.



**Scorpio: (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)**  
Eat well and the rest will fall into place. Well, at least you'll be healthier. I can't guarantee much else.



**Sagittarius: (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)**  
From the day you were born, you've been a stand-out person. Unfortunately, the stars for this week predict unluckiness for you.



**Capricorn: (Dec. 23 - Jan. 19)**  
Late? Don't worry, you're probably not pregnant. Not unless you had sex with a Leo. Oh, you did? Mazel tov?



**Aquarius: (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)**  
Girl, you are too caught up in the past. Get over it, get over yourself and get out of that Haagen Dazs pint!



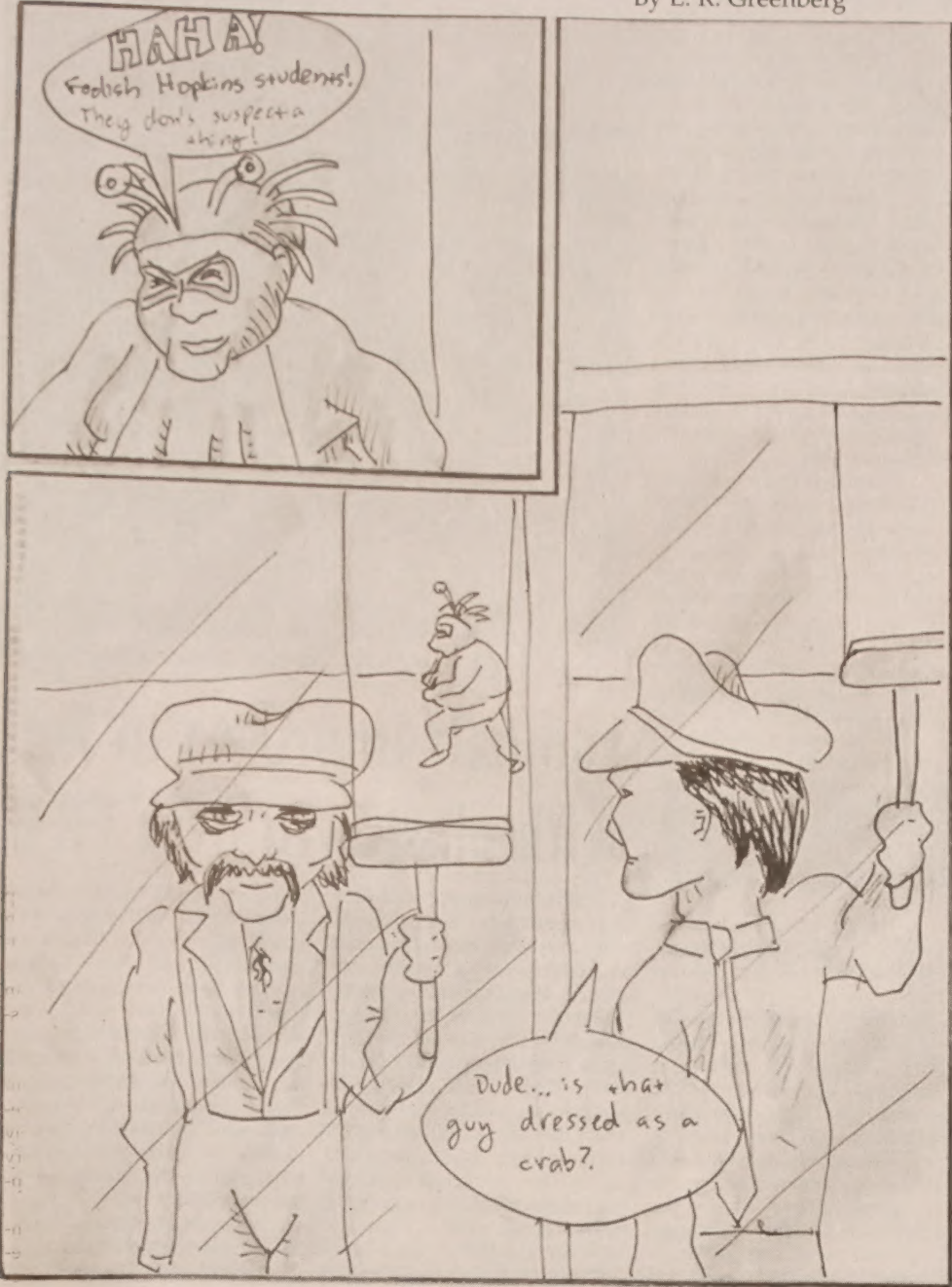
**Pisces: (Feb. 19 - March 20)**  
Kernan is a News-Letter editor. He also has been kicked out of class for unruly conduct. Most likely due to excessive wine and cheese.



# CARTOONS, ETC.

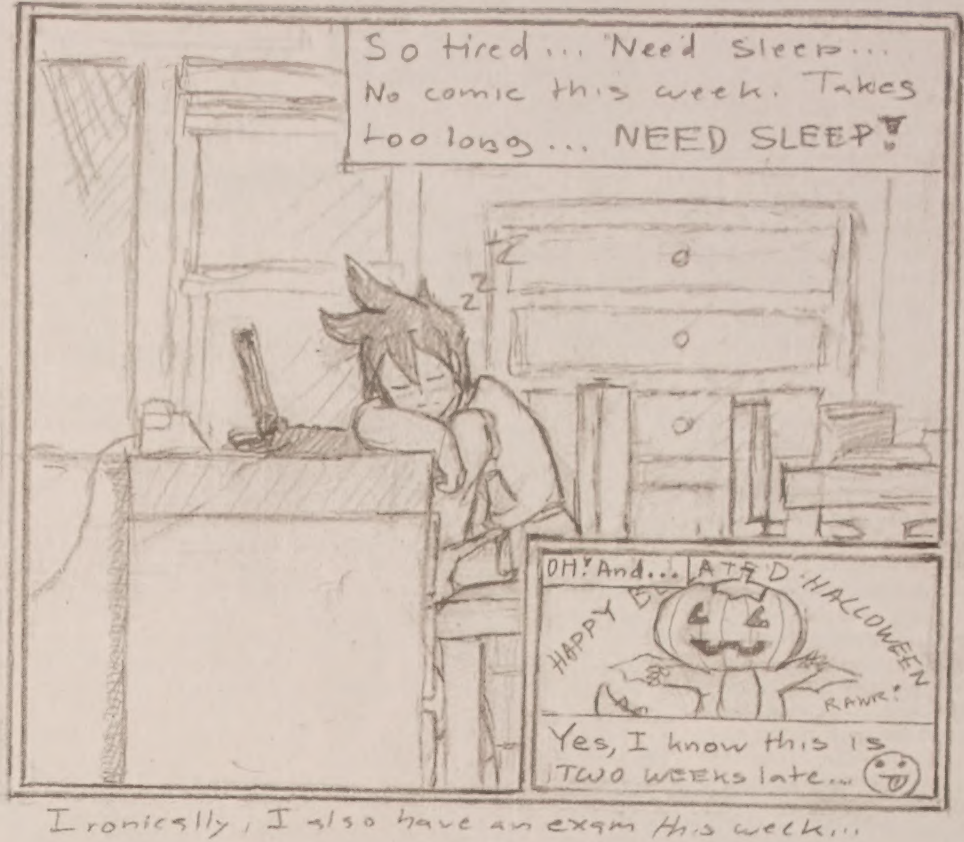
B.A.D.

By L. R. Greenberg



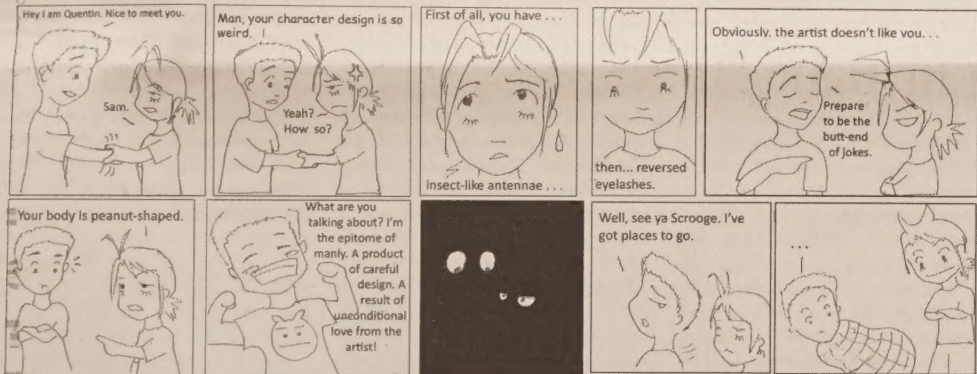
HUGS!

By Shokomon



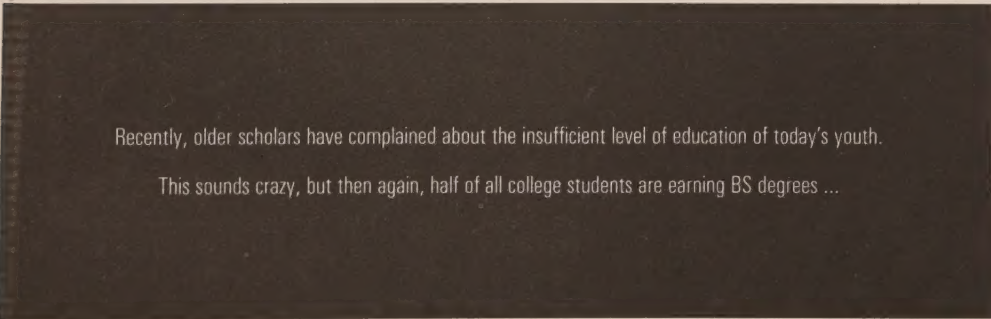
Quentin & Sam

By Jane Yee



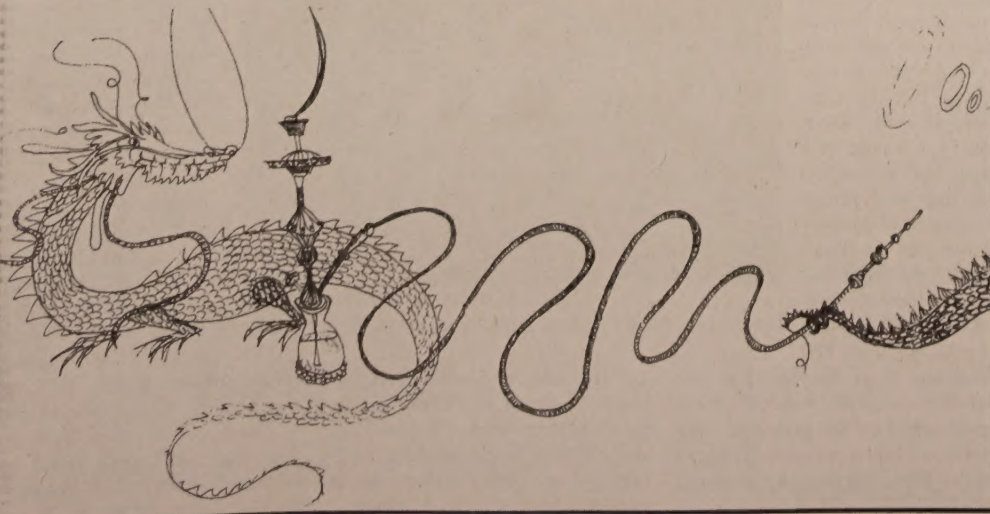
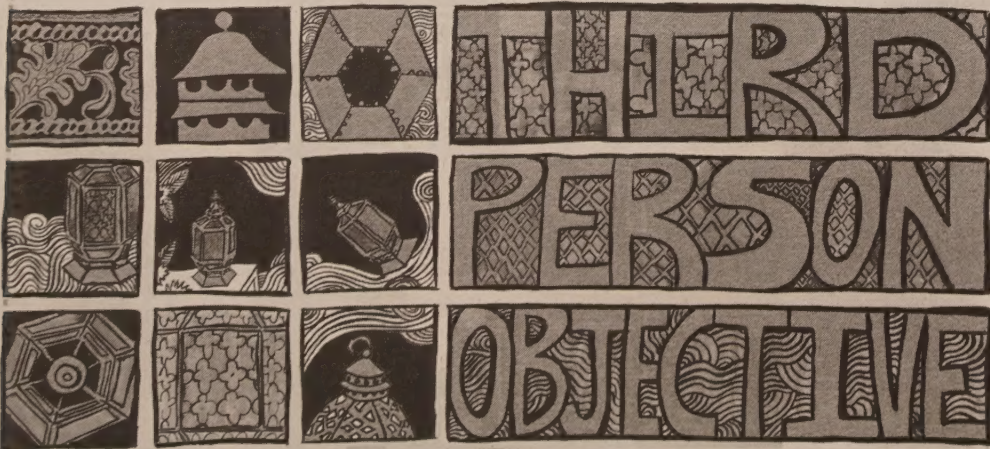
Pun Intended

By Saumya Gurbani



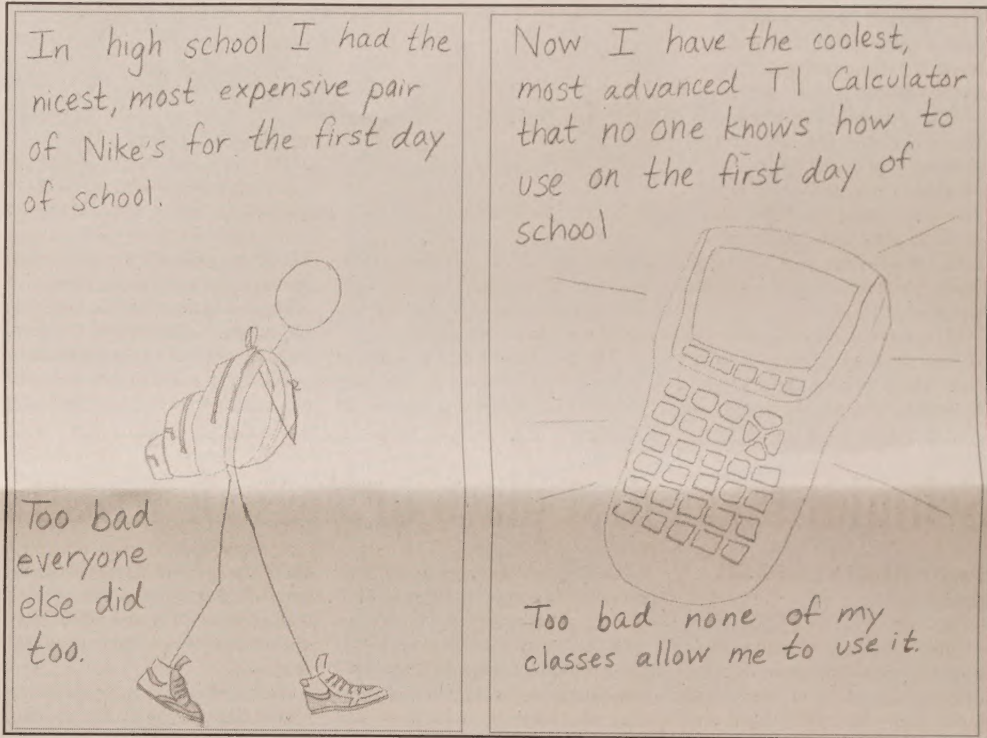
Third Person Objective

By B. G. Warner



The Stranger

By Ruchee Shrestha



## Consumer Reports: the fast food industry taking things to the edge

At a presentation last month, Burger King started the trend in unveiling a syndicate restaurant chain reportedly called Burger Dictator. With the merest flick of the wrist, you can truly have it your way (or at least the new ad campaign says so). To ensure the accuracy of the grilled portrayal of a totalitarian government, Burger King Executives brought in experts from the field including Kim-Jong Il, Robert Mugabe, Ramon ... I mean Fidel Castro as well as Manuel Noriega. A new line of "crowns" aimed at this more diverse and intellectual clientele: including paper Berets, military uniforms and adverse poverty.

Burger King's ambitious move led to a domino effect in the fast food industry, leaving high ranking executives and CEO's scrambling to come up with edgy ideas of their own to keep their multinational corporations succeeding in the fluctuating market. KFC, Taco Bell, McDonald's and Subway all announced exciting campaigns aimed at keeping up with the regal burger giant's, as well as staying relevant in the ever changing cultural climate.

Due to its success in Alabama, KFC will be launching its controversial Jim Crow campaign on an international scale. Clientele will now be able to enjoy separate but equal bathrooms and separate but equal ordering lines in what the fried chicken chain's executives call, "a slice of history that the whole family can enjoy." Customers in Shanghai, Katmandu, Helsinki and prisoners in The Hague can now all be transported to a simpler time in American history when deciding what line to stand in

was a whole lot easier. Executives also discussed the possibility of adding to the theme with the Stonewall Jackson burger and Strom Thurmond chicken sandwich which would vary in size, weight, quality and taste depending on the client's racial superiority or lack thereof. This move truly sounds like an edgy way to keep the whole family guessing on a trip out for a little fried chicken — no response from Popeyes as of yet, but the international community stands on guard in excitement for what may materialize out of their W.E.B DuBois basket.

**Kempton Baldrige**  
**Jeremy Bremer**  
*Keep off the Grass*

Very soon costumers will be able to experience the thrills of illegal immigration while attempting to enter their local Taco Bell. Construction is currently underway on walls surrounding all Taco Bell restaurants, each complete with all the latest furnishings, including barbed wire, trenches, moats and ravenous German Sheppards. The personnel department has gone out of its way to recruit new employees with the main criteria also named as change: namely comprehensive knowledge of the usage and operation of tasers, a 9-mm bereta and new M16 machine guns, with former militia members currently being courted.

McDonald's also announced sweeping changes in a press conference last week, as they declared that after more than half a century they were going to be

making changes to their regular cast of characters. The ever smiling, red-nosed Ronald McDonald is being replaced by a new, edgier mascot simply named Maverick. His arch nemesis Hamburglar is also being replaced by a mascot simply termed Burglar. In addition the happy meal is being revamped into a new, hip meal simply called E, which will include all of the trappings and paraphernalia necessary to develop a debilitating drug habit which will keep the customers coming back for more under the Golden Arches.

And finally, in a long awaited move, sandwich giant Subway has also taken action in an attempt to broaden their clientele has added a special punch: They are taking their creative sandwich making to the subways of America! In an exciting press conference on Tuesday, Subway executives said, "We're finally doing it, we're finally taking the stationary nature out of the Subway sandwich!" to the reception of cheers, whistles, flash bulbs and flashing breasts. Subway will be closing its so-called stationary branches in favor of opening stands on almost every subway and commuter train car in the continental United States. In addition to this sweeping change, Subway will add several on-the-go condiment options to the cornucopia already offered. These new edgy choices include a baby's spit, spray paint, semen of potential sexual abusers and gang signs of your favorite local troublemakers.

It is clear that these sweeping changes in the fast food industry can only lead to further enjoyment of their delectably rushed delicacies!



## SPORTS

# Volleyball season ends at Conference tourney

Senior Amanda Lewis breaks Centennial Conference career assist record in four set loss to Haverford

By **STEPHEN SIHELNIK**  
For the News-Letter

This weekend was a bitter-sweet one for Amanda Lewis. The senior broke the Centennial Conference career assist record in the Jays' match against Haverford, but in the end, the Hopkins volleyball team fell to the Fords 3-1 in the semifinals. This match marked the end of the season for the Blue Jays, who had a solid overall record of 20-7 on the season. Two-time defending champion Haverford advanced to the Centennial Conference title game with a 23-6 record.

Lewis, who garnered all-Centennial honors and made the Conference first team, stepped onto the court needing only 34 assists to set the new Conference record. The senior surpassed this mark, putting up 38 assists against Haverford. The new career assist standard moved up to 4,712, surpassing Haverford's Emily Hinchcliff's mark of 4,707 set in 2007. It only took Lewis 334 career games to set her mark, compared to Hinchcliff's 413.

"It was a great feeling to break the record and only by five assists," Lewis said. "It was a little silver lining for me to the devastating ending to the season."

The number two-seeded Fords took the first set after putting on a comeback needed from their earlier deficit. The Jays tried to hold on to their lead, but the Fords went on a 7-3 run that helped put away the first set after they took the lead at 18-17.

The second set was very close in the opening points, with neither team taking a large lead. Haverford eventually went on an-

other 5-0 run when they were on top 9-7. Haverford cruised on their lead until late in the set. Then the Jays took their stab at a comeback and came within one point of the

sputter at the beginning of the third set. Haverford quickly got down to business and established a 10-4 lead. However, the Jays surged back to within two. The

point. The score remained close, but Hopkins was able to finish out the set with another 4-0 run.

The fourth set started the same as the third. The only difference was that the Fords did not let Hopkins get back in the game. The fourth set was made up of multiple runs by Haverford. This propelled Haverford to a knockout fourth set victory, slamming Hopkins 25-8. This eliminated Hopkins from the Conference tournament and ended the Jays' season. The Fords would go on to win their third consecutive Conference Championship.

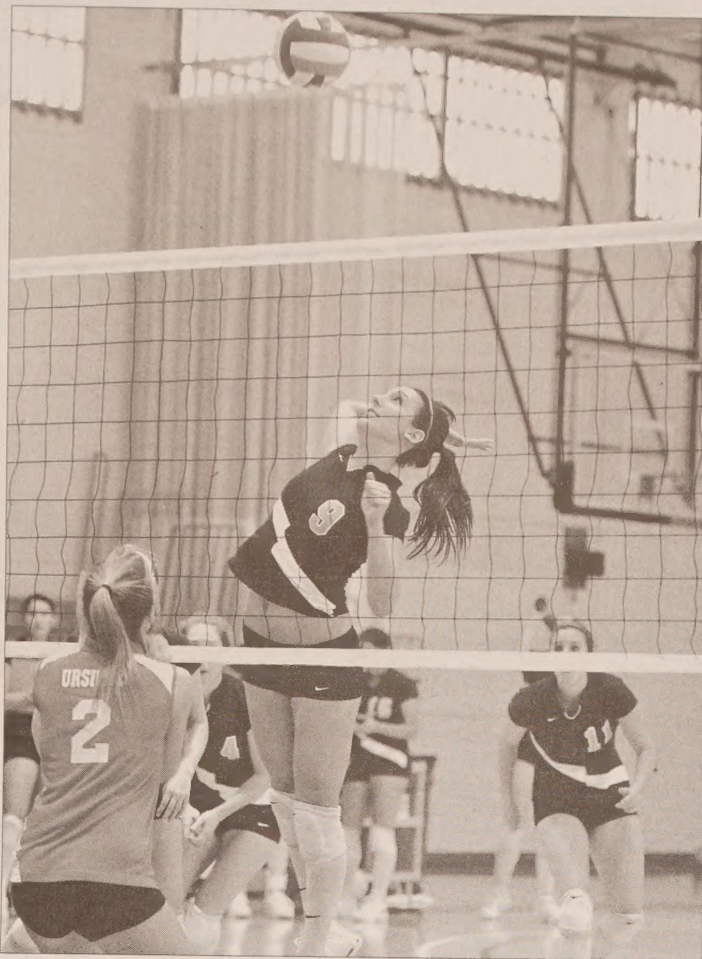
"Haverford is a great team that made us work hard to earn every point," junior Alex Zenoff said.

Freshman Sarah Feicht had 15 kills to lead Hopkins. Zenoff had nine kills, and junior Rhea Alexander led the Jays with 18 digs. Two service aces were added to the effort by sophomore Taryn Segal.

The 20 wins for Hopkins are evidence of an incredibly successful season under first year Head Coach Greg Giovanazzi. Giovanazzi has a wealth of volleyball experience coaching both Division I and USA national teams.

"The was by far the best season for me since I've been on the team. I loved being in practice, loved being around the team, and Greg was great," Lewis said. "I think, considering the change in coaching staff so close to the beginning of the season, we did a pretty good job of acclimating, and our record reflects that."

Overall, the team finished the season with an excellent statistical record. The Jays led the Conference in hit percentage (.227) and were second in assists (10.15), kills (11.46) and third in opponent hitting percentage (.143) and blocks (1.50).

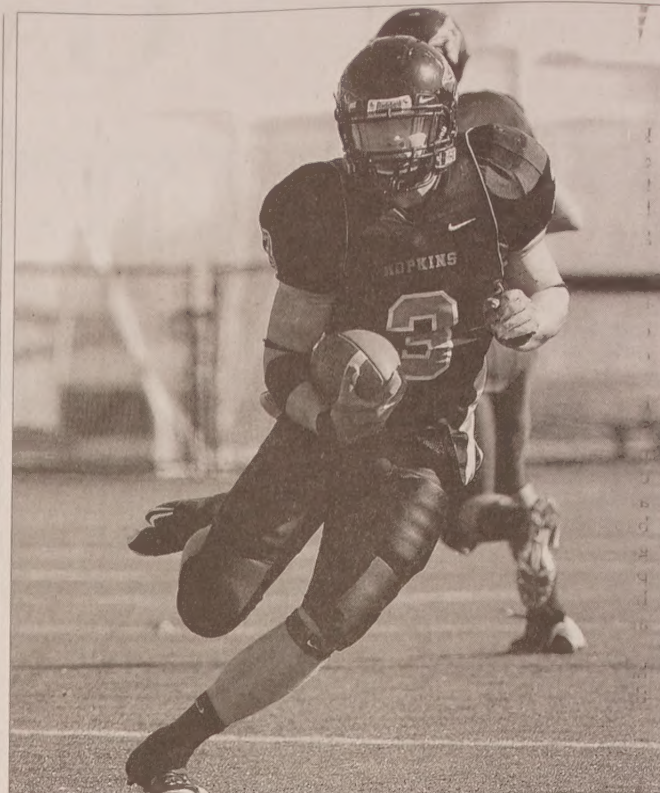


CONOR KEVIT/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Senior Amanda Lewis has tallied 4,712 career assists, setting a Centennial Conference record.

Fords at 23-22. Unfortunately, Haverford was able to maintain composure and win the set by taking the next two points.

The Jays went into the third set in a do or die situation. The Jays looked like they were starting to

Fords responded by putting on a run of their own, going up by five. The Jays again made one of their signature runs and tied the score at 14-14 with an exclamation point made by freshman Sarah Feicht, who scored a kill on the tying



ANGELI BUENO/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
Andrew Kase has rushed for 1,236 yards and 14 touchdowns in the season.

## Football improves to 7-2 with close win over F&M

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B12

the momentum, they went for two but sophomore linebacker A.J. Albert made a clutch game-saving play by picking off the two-point attempt. But wait, Albert still had yet one more highlight play left in him. Franklin and Marshall miraculously recovered an onside kick to give them the ball at midfield with 20 seconds in the game. But Albert made the game-ending tackle that sealed Hopkins's victory last weekend.

When comparing the records going into the game, Hopkins tied for second in the Conference at 5-2, and Franklin and Marshall near the bottom at 3-3, one ponders how, other than an Any Given Sunday motto, why the game was so close.

Head Coach Jim Margraff provided an explanation: "Not much separates the teams within the Centennial Conference. Every game is a challenge. F&M has some terrific skill players on offense and is a senior-laden defense. We got off to a slow start. Playing on grass is now a novelty, with all the artificial surfaces around. It had rained earlier in the morning. The conditions seemed fine, but we really strug-

gled with our footing in the first half. It looked as though some of our guys were running around on ice."

"We were not as sharp with our special teams as I would have liked. We missed two extra points and gave up a couple of big returns. F&M came into the game in the top five in the nation in kickoff returns. We felt we had a good plan to contain them, but they still ended up with good starting field position."

When asked about any standout performers on the day, Coach Margraff had this to say: "Tucker Michels had a standout day on offense. F&M committed their safeties to stop the run, which left our wide receivers one-on-one for most of the game. Tucker did a great job of getting open and making some big catches. Our two strong safeties on defense, Kale Sweeney and Tyler Brown, had excellent games. Both have matured as players in the last few weeks and are showing great promise for the future."

The Jays are now 7-2 overall with a 5-2 Conference record. Hopkins football will end the 2008 regular season next Saturday at home against the McDaniel Green Terror.

## Schmidt takes first place in Messiah Wrestling Invitational

By **DEMIAN KENDALL**  
Sports Editor

The Hopkins wrestling team did not open the season as strong as they would have liked. After more than a month of hard work and grueling practices, the team traveled to Messiah College to compete in the Messiah Invitational, their first tournament of the year. Reeling from off-season attrition and fielding a talented but young line-up, the Jays only managed to pull out a sixth place finish in the eight-team competition.

However, despite the final standings, the tournament was not a disappointment for the Jays. Messiah served as a showcase for

as a number one seed, he was heavily favored to repeat his strong performance. In this regard, he did not disappoint. However, although his top seed spot granted him a first round bye in the tournament, which would seem favorable, many wrestlers view this as a disadvantage. Schmidt was forced to watch and wait throughout the first round of competition, struggling to stay loose for his first match.

"I basically waited around for most of the day, not wrestling until about 4:30 after weighing in at around 8:30 in the morning," Schmidt said. "By my first match I was feeling a little rusty, but I think I still wrestled fine." Schmidt

the issue on him. I ended up taking him down a number of times and I beat him soundly, but I didn't pin him, which is what I wanted."

Schmidt had a surprisingly easier time in the finals, shutting out the number two seed Will Yeo of McDaniel by a score of 6-0 to win the tournament.

"I just really pressed the issue because I knew the wrestler was young and nervous, so I just tried to push his head around, keep him on the mat and make him feel as uncomfortable as humanly possible," Schmidt said. "That benefited me, because I ended up capitalizing on places where he made mistakes. I made openings and really just beat up on these kids."

The Jays were also bolstered by the strong performance of their untested freshman 133-pounder Michael Testa. Testa drew a number two seed in the tournament, but unlike Schmidt, did not receive a first round bye. Since the 133-pound tournament consisted of more wrestlers than the 197-pound class, Testa would have to secure three wins to be able to reach the finals match. This proved to be no major challenge for the freshman wrestler.

"I wanted to go out and wrestle as if it were any other tournament, like in high school," Testa said. "I just wanted to get through that first tournament, get the nerves out of the way and just wrestle my hardest."

Testa won the first match of his collegiate career in one minute and seven seconds when he pinned Tim Sykes of Case Western. Keeping his momentum going, he recorded another pin in his second match against Stefan Chaussard of Waynesburg in four minutes and 17 seconds. In his first two matches combined, he had yet to wrestle the full seven minutes of a regular collegiate match. However, this streak was broken in the semifinals as Testa went the distance against Rico Borz of Waynesburg, winning with a score of 4-3.

Despite his dominance throughout the tournament, Testa came up short against the number one seed Nick Garber of Waynesburg. A favorite in the tournament, Garber managed to pin Testa in the first 17 seconds of the match.

"I just went out there and I would say the kid took it to me," Testa said. "I was happy with my

performance overall despite that in that match I did not wrestle very well. I definitely look to improve from that. I think that's a good place to start and I can only go up from there."

The team looks for a shot at redemption this weekend as they head to Providence, R.I. to compete in the Roger Williams Tournament.

## M. soccer prepares for NCAA tournament

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B12

"It was probably one of the most phenomenal feelings in the world," Carlson said of his golden goal. "I found myself swinging my jersey above my head screaming to the world that I love soccer. It was a great feeling to be able to help my team out when they needed me [the] most."

After beating Gettysburg, the Jays improved to 12-4-3 and now lead the series between the Bullets 3-2-0. It was a different story though, as the Jays now faced #11 Swarthmore in the finals.

Swarthmore, putting up a solid 15-2-2 record, put an end to the Jays' hopes for their third consecutive Conference championship. The match stood even at nil-nil for well over a half in this crucial game, but the Garnets' David Sterngold got a hold of a long ball at the top of the box. Junior keeper Matt Meirley came out to challenge the ball but was a stride too late, as Sterngold chipped it over his head. The loss was tough to realize as the whistle ended the match. It was a great effort by the Jays, and they came just one score away. The Jays ended the Conference tournament at 12-5-3.

Although they didn't claim the Centennial title, the Jays still have much to look forward to as they earned a berth in the NCAA Tournament, which begins later this week.

would help ease the pain from Sunday."

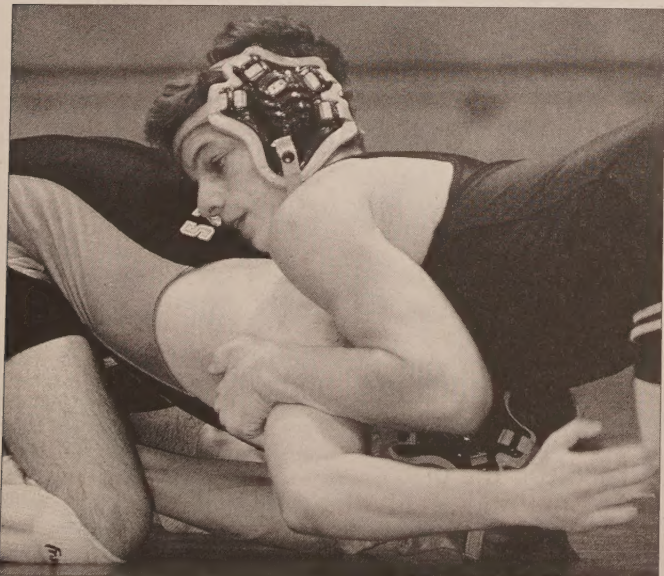
In the first round match, the Jays will be hosted by Ithaca for the first meeting of these two teams. Hopkins and Ithaca have received at-large bids after finishing second in the Centennial Conference and Empire Eight Tournaments, respectively.

The team is taking nothing for granted and is trying to stay focused yet loose before Thursday's all-important match.

"We are loosening up and having fun," Gauna said.

"As always, we're taking nothing for granted," Carlson said. "Ithaca has played well against some tough teams in the nation this year and same with us. Our bracket was a fair draw, given the unfortunate slip ups we encountered in Conference play late in the season. So it's my senior year and last hurrah, and I'm ecstatic to have the opportunity to win a national championship, but we're just taking it one game at a time."

The Jays will be competing in their third consecutive and 12th overall NCAA trip. The winner will go on to play York College in the second round. The Hopkins versus Ithaca match will take place today at Carp Wood Field in Ithaca, NY at 1 p.m. If the Jays win, they will play again this weekend against York College of Pennsylvania at York.



COURTESY OF CARL SCHMIDT

Freshman 133-pounder Michael Testa was one of two Jay finalists at Messiah.

the talent of some of Hopkins' individual wrestlers who look to dominate the Centennial Conference throughout the season. Senior veteran and team captain Tyler Schmidt took the 197-pound title after a long day of competition. Hopkins also displayed the potential of some of its younger talent, as freshman Michael Testa battled his way through three tough matches to a second place finish. Freshman 184-pounder Hector Cintron also demonstrated that he was a force to be reckoned with, earning a fourth place finish and standing strong as the only wrestler who did not fall to the 184-pound champion by pin.

All eyes were on Schmidt as the competition began. Schmidt won the Invitational in 2007 and

is known as a mentally focused wrestler, whose state of mind going into the match can determine whether he dominates or runs into problems. By the time his opening bout began, he was mentally prepared for domination.

Schmidt's first challenge came from Messiah's Tim Hopkins in the semi-final round. With years of training and sheer aggression (a characteristic that makes Schmidt's wrestling style a powerful force) Schmidt dominated Hopkins throughout, finishing with a 5-3 decision and earning him a berth in the finals round.

"I was extremely aggressive and the kid was incredibly nervous wrestling me first," Schmidt said. "So I really just tried to force



ANGELI BUENO/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

Kevin Hueber and the Jays are preparing for the NCAA tournament.



SPORTS

# W. soccer wins Centennial with PK

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE B12**  
kick shootout. After 110 minutes of intense but scoreless action, the game's decision rests in the hands of six players — a team's goalie and five selected shooters. Since the 1970s when this deciding method was made popular, there have been a number of close matches that have been decided by "P.K.s," including the 1999 Women's World Cup Final between China and the United States. For Hopkins, the five players are chosen based on two criteria — those who are good and those who are willing. That being said, the outcome of the game rested in the hands of five players — Jane O'Connor, Lisa Irizarry, Natalie Held, Erica Suter and Molly Bralower.

O'Connor took the first shot, a hard ground ball that went past the goalie and into the right side

of the goal. Dickinson's Sarah Casey made the Red Devil's first attempt, a high ball that sailed over the cross bar. Irizarry and captain Natalie Held each made their shots, as did Dickinson's Courtney Anderson and Ashley Kunkle. Suter's ball bounced off the post and Dickinson's Sarah Montminy followed up with a high right ball that missed the goal as well. The final shot came down to freshman defender Molly Bralower. Bralower sent a left ground ball into the net, winning Hopkins their fourth straight Centennial Conference Championship. "It was a little nerve-racking," Bralower said. "But we practiced penalty kicks all week and I was confident in myself and in my teammates."

In addition to the win, Suter and sophomore defender Jenn Paulucci earned Centennial Players of the

Week titles, Suter earning Offensive Player of the Week and Paulucci receiving Defensive Player of the Week. Junior goalkeeper Karen Guskowski also earned her 11th shutout this season, giving her the record for most shutouts during a single season. "It's obviously awesome to be in the record book. But I have to give credit to the team in front of me. I wouldn't get that if the team in front of me was letting balls in. A lot of the credit goes to them," Guskowski said, when asked about this accomplishment.

After securing the title of Centennial Conference Champions, Hopkins continues its undefeated season as it hosts the first and second games of the NCAA Regional Tournament this weekend. "We've accomplished a lot of the goals that we set for this [past] weekend. The next goal for us is to go further than any other team has gone — to win both of the games this weekend. That's the next step for us," Coach Weil said.

The Jays will take on Meredith College in their first game of the NCAA Regional Tournament at 5 p.m. this Saturday.

# Field hockey season ends vs. CNU

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE B12**  
and just 2:38 after halftime, Moore scored on a high shot, putting Ursinus up by three.

A goal by Katie Mastoris at 51:32 put the Bears up 4-0, and at 66:03, Thren would add Ursinus's final goal of the game. Hopkins was able to avoid getting shutout by the Bears' Erica Scott, however, when Landy scored on a pass from Horton, Hopkins's all-time assists leader.

Sophia Tieu finished the game with a career-high and Hopkins Centennial Conference Tournament record, 17 saves. Scott had one save for Ursinus. Leah Horton tallied three points on the weekend, giving her nine total points in eight conference tournament games, a Hopkins record. Hopkins is now 10-6 all time in the Centennial Conference Tournament, with seven title game appearances and two championships in 2000 and 2003.

Despite the loss, the Lady Jays earned an at-large bid to play in the NCAA tournament, their second consecutive and eighth overall appearance.



ANGELI BUENO/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
Freshman defender Olivia Ross works the ball upfield toward the Ursinus territory.

Hopkins hosted Christopher Newport on Wednesday in the Lady Jays' first home NCAA game since 2003. In the end, CNU came out on top by a score of 2-1 now advancing to play fifth-ranked TCNJ at Tufts University in Massachusetts. Johns Hopkins field hockey is now 2-8 all-time in the NCAA tournament, and 1-2 in home contests. The two teams met earlier this season, with Hopkins easily prevailing 8-2.

# Water Polo takes third in Southern Championships

By SHANT KESKINYAN  
Staff Writer

The Hopkins water polo team headed to Princeton, N.J. this past weekend to compete in the CWP Southern Championships. Coming off a strong season, the Blue Jays, "the best team we've had in a while," as Coach Bresnahan put it, headed into the Championships as the fifth seed, with an 11-14 record.

The men opened up championship play with an 11-7 win over fourth-seeded Mercyhurst. Earlier in the season, Mercyhurst beat Hopkins 16-11, and this win sent a subtle message of revenge. After the match against Mercyhurst, Hopkins then went on to play Navy. It was a tough match and the men fell to the Midshipmen 16-6. With one win and one loss, Hopkins was pitted against Bucknell for the third-place match.

After a well-fought game, the Jays were able to beat Bucknell 11-9. By claiming third place at the CWP Southern Championships, the men advance to the Eastern Championships, which will be hosted at Navy from Nov. 21 to Nov. 23.

In an interview with Coach Bresnahan about this past weekend's games, he shared what he thought about the team's performance: "This was the best team water polo we have played in five years. In our win against Mercyhurst we shut down the nation's seventh leading scorer Peter Schonhoff to zero goals. This is the first time we have won against Bucknell in the last 11 meetings. Seniors Josh Kratz and Alex Bond led the team from the offensive and defensive sides. Eight different Jays found the back of the net with Kratz and junior Kyle Gertridge scoring two each. Bond had one goal, three assists and three ejections drawn. Senior goalie Chris Hutchens had 12 saves, one assist and two steals in the Bucknell game. Eight different players, representing all classes, scored. It was the greatest team effort on both offense and defense in recent memory. The Jays have a legitimate shot at the final game at the Eastern championships. If we are fortunate enough to be there and win that, we will secure the automatic bid to the NCAA Division-I final four."



ANGELI BUENO/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
Senior defenseman Jesse Fox works to maneuver the ball in a previous match-up.

## ATHLETE OF THE WEEK MATT CARLSON - MEN'S SOCCER

# The defensive midfielder: unsung hero of the soccer pitch

By MIKE SUMNER  
Staff Writer

2007 First Team All-Centennial, First Team NSCAA All-Region, First Team NSCAA All-American, 2006 and 2007 Centennial Academic Honor Roll athlete and a probable repeat in every one of those categories. No matter what figures you throw into the equation, Matt Carlson has had one of the most impressive careers in the history of the Hopkins men's soccer organization. With his career down to the wire and his recent unanimous crowning of Centennial Conference Player of the Year, it seems only logical that we honor him with the title of Athlete of the Week.

Serving as co-captain for three years, Carlson played the difficult and often thankless position of defensive midfielder. His name doesn't often appear on the score sheets nor has he set any kind of scoring record. On paper and to the untrained eye, the specter of Matt Carlson would go unnoticed. But thankfully, games aren't won on paper. Any-

one who's been to even a single soccer game knows the profound impact Carlson has on his team, both on and off the field.

What a score sheet won't tell you is that most scoring chances for the Blue Jays, if not all, begin at the feet of Carlson. While offensive players are focused on the goal, Matt has to have the field vision to distribute to all areas of the field. If they lose the ball, it's Matt's job to get it back. It's also his job to cover for any other player that drifts too far forward. Playing just behind the midfield, he's the first line of defense against any opponent. Let's not also forget his aerial contributions. As his head coach will tell you, listed at 6'1, Carlson has no problems taking on larger players, often time-besting them for any ball knocked into the air.

He attributes his harsh style of play to his own personal motto: "Respect All, Fear None." Because no matter what the other team throws at him, he has to be able to stand firm in the face of adversity, but not suffer the pitfalls of arrogance or overconfidence.

"Matt plays with passion, probably more than any other player I've worked with," Coach Appleby, who is just finishing up his first year at the helm of the Hopkins program, said. "My only regret is that he's a senior and this was the only chance we got to work together."

The kid from Connecticut certainly has come a long way. He was only six years old when he first took the field. While some would push forward, eager to take the glory that comes with goal scoring, Matt wanted to be in the thick of it. While the forwards may put the ball in the net, the midfielder is constantly in-



ANGELI BUENO/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

involved in the game on both sides of the ball. It is here that Matt dominated.

But soccer is not the only reason Matt came to Hopkins. We can all see how he excels on the field, but we don't get to see him excel in the classroom. "I came to Hopkins because I knew there was a life after soccer," he said. Evenly splitting the time between work and play, he's been on the Dean's List each of his four years. Looking to graduate with honors, he'll leave Hopkins with a 3.6 GPA with a double major in economics and psychology and a minor in entrepreneurship and management. How he managed to pull all that off and still have the career he did is beyond understanding.

"Work piles up sometimes. Life can get hectic. But I guess

I just take things one at a time. Soccer's a break from all that. It's what keeps me sane."

What's next for Carlson? He's currently anxious to hear about a possible internship at a consulting firm. The kicker: They have an organized indoor soccer team.

But this Blue Jay isn't out of the woods yet. The Jays may have lost the Centennial Conference Championship in a nail-biter to Swarthmore, but they still earned a spot in the NCAA tournament. Matt Carlson's career is now in his own hands. Up first is a trip all the way up to Ithaca, N.Y. Whether his career ends there or on Dec. 6 in the finals, we have witnessed the passing of one of the best in our school's history: one that won't soon be replaced or forgotten.

## VITAL STATISTICS

Year: Senior  
Major: Econ/Psychology

**Hopkins Highlights:**  
Co-captain for three years. 2007 First Team NSCAA All-Region, First Team NSCAA All-American, and 2006 and 2007 Centennial Conference Academic Honor Roll. Dean's List for all four years of school.

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# SPORTS

## THIS DAY IN SPORTS

1982 - A boxing match held in Las Vegas, Nevada ends when Ray Mancini defeats Duk Koo Kim. Kim's would die four days later from injuries suffered during the fight. Kim's death led to significant changes in the sport of boxing, including the shortening of a standard match from fifteen rounds to twelve.

## CALENDAR

### SATURDAY

Football: JHU vs. McDaniel 1 p.m.

W. Soccer: NCAA Tournament First Rd. JHU vs. Meredith 5 p.m.

### SUNDAY

W. Soccer: NCAA Tourn. 2nd Rd. 6p.m.

## Undefeated w. soccer wins Centennial with PK

By KAT BASELICE  
Staff Writer

This past weekend, the Hopkins women's soccer team continued their undefeated season when, after beating Muhlenberg the day before, the team out-shot Dickinson in a penalty kick shootout for the Centennial Conference Championship title.

The team maintained the same level of intensity and training techniques that had led them to victory throughout the season. According to senior defender Jane O'Connor, "The stuff that we were practicing gave us success during the season. There was no need to change anything. We just kept up the same stuff and made sure everyone was working hard."

Coach Leo Weil, who has coached the Jays to seven Conference Championships over his 17 years at Hopkins, said, "We didn't do a whole lot different than what we've done. We worked on penalty kicks at the end of practice for the last couple weeks. We knew both the teams that we played, but in both cases we played away, on grass and on smaller fields. It was totally different circumstances."

The Jays started off the weekend against the fourth-seeded Muhlenberg team. After defeating Muhlenberg during the regular season 3-0, the Jays struggled to make anything happen, and regulation concluded scoreless with Hopkins leading Muhlenberg in shots on goal 13-10. Following missed scoring opportunities in



COURTESY OF THE JHU ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT  
The women's soccer team celebrates its third consecutive centennial conference championship title on Sunday at Homewood.

the first round of overtime, one from freshman forward Erica Suter and another from freshman forward Paulina Goodman, Hopkins was able to capitalize during the second round of overtime when, amidst a mob of players, Suter made the most of a pass from senior midfielder Lisa Irizarry in the goal box for the only goal of the game.

"We regressed a little on Saturday to how we were playing towards the beginning of the season," Coach Weil said about Saturday's game. "We played somewhat tentatively and didn't want to take chances."

Less than 24 hours later, the Jays again took the field, this time against second-seeded Dickinson College. From the start, Hopkins was able

to control the ball better and showed more fire than they had the previous day. Although the Jays seemed to maintain possession throughout much of the first half, they were only able to get five shots off. "Dickinson put up a really good fight," Goodman said. "We couldn't get in position for a good shot that could have gotten past them and past their keeper, who was also very good."

In the second half Goodman was awarded a penalty shot after being taken down by Dickinson's Courtney Anderson, but goalkeeper Kailyn Hartmann was able to deflect it. Once again, regulation ended scoreless, and after two rounds of no goals in overtime, the game came down to a final penalty kick shootout.

There is, arguably, nothing more intense in the game of soccer than a post-game penalty

CONTINUED FROM PAGE B11

## Men's soccer denied conference three-peat

By GERALD BILLAC  
Staff Writer

The Blue Jays, on their eighth consecutive Centennial Conference Tournament with two recent titles, couldn't complete their conference three-peat. Having won the conference in 2006 and 2007, Hopkins was looking to etch their name in the history books by being the first team with three consecutive conference championships, but Swarthmore ended their dream early. The Jays did not get the chance to defend their title with the 1-0 loss in the finals. After coming off losses against Gettysburg College and Washington College, there was not much momentum going into the first semifinal round. There was a chance to redeem one loss though, as the Jays were set against second-seeded Gettysburg in the first semifinal game.

A long-fought battle between the second and third seed ended

in extra time, as it was tied at 1-1 after regulation play. Senior Nick Gauna blasted Hopkins onto the scoreboard in the 10th minute with an outside shot that went right past the Bullets' keeper. Gettysburg was able to equalize the score in the 22nd minute with a goal by Ian Forster. The game remained tied at 1-1, with neither team being able to put away the go-ahead goal, until senior midfielder Matt Carlson came through in extra time.

Carlson, the Centennial Conference Player of the Year, put in the winning goal against Gettysburg in the 98th minute. His overtime victory goal was possible because of a ball played by senior Akash Naik to Carlson at the top of the box. Carlson struck into the left corner of the net. With this strike, the Jays won the match 2-1 and punched their ticket to the Conference Championship game for the sixth time.

CONTINUED ON PAGE B10

**Final**  
Swarthmore 1  
Hopkins 0

## Football cuts it close against the Diplomats

By WILLIAM CHAN  
Staff Writer

This past Saturday, the Hopkins football team went into Sponaugle-Williamson Stadium in Lancaster, Penn. and took down Franklin and Marshall. With 16 seconds left in the first quarter, running back Andrew Kase scored the first touchdown of the game with a one-yard run to cap off a six-play, 61-yard drive. However, starting the next quarter off, Franklin and Marshall responded with 55-yard bomb that resulted in a touchdown. But on the very next Jay drive, Hewitt Tomlin responded with a strike of his own — a 48-yard touchdown pass to receiver Tucker Michels. Hopkins led 13-7. Right before halftime, Franklin and Marshall was able to muster up a 10 play, 47-yard drive that resulted in a seven-yard touchdown pass. Knowing that they had missed its previous PAT, the punt block team judiciously broke through line and blocked Franklin and Marshall's PAT in order to keep the game tied going into halftime.

Into the third quarter, Franklin and Marshall was making its way into Hopkins territory until senior defensive back Paul Fields picked off John Harrison's pass, which began a Jay march into the end zone. Then Hopkins put together a 12-play, 70-yard drive that was topped off by a two-yard touchdown run by Andrew Kase. The Hopkins defense was able to shut Franklin and Marshall down completely in the third quarter.



ANGELI BUENO/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
Freshman defensive lineman Ross Gruber grabs a turnover and turns up the field.

Early in the fourth quarter, Franklin and Marshall was able to get another score with a 14-yard touchdown run. They went for two, but freshman strong safety Kale Sweeney was able to tip the pass, and thus preserved a Hopkins one-point lead. In response,

Hopkins put together an eight-play, 64-yard drive, including a 38-yard pass from Tomlin to Michels that put the Jays in the

Franklin and Marshall red-zone. Freshman Tyler Porco replaced Tomlin at quarterback, and a few plays later, threw a six-yard strike to Michels.

But the Hopkins PAT failed, again. Then Franklin and Marshall put together an extremely long drive, eating up 8:26 off the clock and comprising of 17 plays, 80 yards of offense, scoring a touchdown on a two-yard pass. Capitalizing on

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## Field Hockey season comes to an end vs. CNU

By TRISTAN MOHABIR  
Staff Writer

The #10-ranked Blue Jay field hockey team saw its season come to an end on Wednesday night, falling to Christopher Newport University 2-1.

This past weekend, Hopkins participated in the Centennial Conference Tournament, advancing to the title game for an astounding seventh time in nine years, following a 2-0 shutout victory over the Gettysburg Bullets on Saturday. The win improved the Lady Jays' record to 16-3 on the year. With the victory, Hopkins advanced to play the top-seeded Bears of Ursinus on Sunday, who denied the Jays a third Centennial Conference title, winning the contest 5-1.

In their semifinal matchup, one dominated by defense, the second-seeded Jays would get all the offense they needed at 17:06, when senior Leah Horton scored on a penalty stroke after being fouled by Gettysburg just in front of the cage. It was the second consecutive game that Horton scored on a penalty stroke and the second time she has ever scored on a penalty stroke in a Centennial Conference Tournament game, as she also scored on such a play in the 2007 conference semifinals against Muhlenberg.

Horton is the only Hopkins player to ever convert a regulation penalty stroke into a score in a Centennial Conference Tournament game.

At the 42:20 mark, Hopkins built on its lead when junior forward Andrea Vandersall redirected a pass from senior midfielder Adair Landy in front of the cage to score, putting the Lady Jays up 2-0, and effectively

putting away the Bullets. Junior goalie Sophia Tieu had to make just one save, while junior Christina Anderson recorded two saves for the Bullets. Tieu became just the fourth goalie in school history to post a shutout in a Centennial Conference Tournament game. Hopkins outshot Gettysburg 13-6 over the course of the match.

With the victory, Hopkins created a one vs. two matchup in the conference title game, as the second-seeded and twelfth-ranked Lady Jays advanced to play the top dogs of the conference, the four-time defending champion

and third-ranked Ursinus Bears, in a rematch of the last two conference title games. In the two teams' only previous meeting of the season, a week ago at Homewood Field, the Bears prevailed 8-3; Hopkins didn't fare any better this time around. At 19:58, Ursinus's Megan Yoder converted on a pass from Jennie Moore, putting the Bears up 1-0. Less than five minutes later, Alyssa Thren scored after collecting a rebound off the pads of Tieu, increasing the Bears' lead to 2-0.

Things didn't get much better for the Jays after the first half.

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**Final**  
CNU 2  
Hopkins 1



ANGELI BUENO/PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR  
Senior captain Emily Miller and the Lady Jays fell in the first round of the NCAA's.

## INSIDE

### Volleyball: Lewis breaks record

Senior Amanda Lewis and the Jays volleyball team finished their season this weekend after losing in the conference tournament, but Lewis broke the conference career assist record. Page B10.

### Water Polo: third place finish

The men's water polo team took third place this weekend at the Southern Championships at Princeton and qualified for the Eastern Championships this upcoming weekend. Page B10.

### Athlete of the Week: Matt Carlson

Senior defensive midfielder Matt Carlson scored the game-winning goal on Saturday, just days after he was named Centennial Conference Player of the Year for the 2008 season. Page B11.